JUMP COMICS

ROOKIES

ルーキーズ 23

23

今を生きる！

ルーキーズ

ROOKIES

森田まさのり

森田まさのり・集英社

森田まさのり

絵に対するこだわりは何かと聞かれて、すごく困ったことがある。こだわり……。うーん……何だろ……。あるのかなぁ…。改めて考えるとホントに何も浮かばない。うーん…こだわり……。手を抜かないこと…。そうだ、一所懸命描くことだった。こだわりと言えるかどうかわからないけど、今週もよくがんばったと言えるような絵を描くことだ。こだわりと言うか心がけだな。これだけはいつまでも忘れずにいたいです。

●週刊少年ジャンプ・H15年6―7合併号、9号～11号、13号～16号、18号掲載分収録

LOVE J・C

9784088734330

1929979003906

ISBN4-08-873433-5

C9979 ¥390E

定価 本体390円＋税

雑誌 43008－33

ジャンプ・コミックス

平塚が四番サード!? 安仁屋をはじめとするケガ人の続出、負けたら出場停止という最悪の危機を打破すべく、謹慎中の川藤が組んだ変則オーダーで臨む白黒川との予選第5回戦。試合は、あの男の本塁打で幕を開けた!!

ジャンプコミックス ★各巻とも好評発売中!!

ONE PIECE	1～28	尾田栄一郎
テニスの王子様	1～18	許斐剛
遊☆戯☆王	1～33	高橋和希
NARUTO―ナルト―	1～17	岸本斉史
HUNTER×HUNTER	1～17	冨樫義博
幽☆遊☆白書	1～19	冨樫義博
こちら葛飾区亀有公園前派出所	1～155	秋本治
ヒカルの碁	1～22	ほったゆみ・小畑健
シャーマンキング	1～24	武井宏之
アイシールド21	1～3	稲垣理一郎・村田雄介
ROOKIES	1～23	森田まさのり
ジョジョの奇妙な冒険 Part6 ストーンオーシャン	1～16	荒木飛呂彦
ジョジョの奇妙な冒険	1～63	荒木飛呂彦
BLEACH	1～8	久保帯人
Mr.FULLSWING	1～9	鈴木信也
BLACK CAT	1～13	矢吹健太朗
ピューと吹く!ジャガー	1～5	うすた京介
ボボボーボ・ボーボボ	1～9	澤井啓夫
いちご100%	1～5	河下水希
プリティフェイス	1～4	叶恭弘
TOKYO ANTS 叶恭弘短編集Ⅱ		叶恭弘
A・O・N	1～2	道鳥元
DRAGON BALL	1～42	山上雄彦
SLAM DUNK	1～31	井上雄彦
BASTARD!!	1～22	萩原一至
るろうに剣心―明治剣客浪漫譚―	1～28	和月伸宏
ホイッスル!	1～24	樋口大輔
サクラテツ対話篇	上・下巻	藤崎竜
Ultra Red	1～2	鈴木央
Mr.Clice(ミスタークリス)Part Ⅰ～5		秋本治
冒険王ビィト	1～3	三浦勝洋・梅田浩司
DRAGON DRIVE	1～6	佐倉ケンイチ
I'll ～アイル～	1～12	浅田弘幸
ダブル・ハード	1～28	今野直樹
わたるがぴゅん!	1～55	なかいまさき
風飛び一斗	1～13	門馬もと強
CLAYMORE	1～4	八木教広
あやかし天馬	1～3	柴田亜美
ファイアーエムブレム覇者の剣	1～4	井沢ひろし・山田孝太郎
なんだかコワレ丸	1～3	矢也晶久
GODAGUN	1～15	片倉・M・政憲
魔砲使い黒姫	1	片倉・M・政憲
ガンリュウ	1～8	山根和俊
増田こうすけ劇場 ギャグマンガ日和	1～4	増田こうすけ
綺流斗～キルト～	1～3	池田晃久
LEO the GOLD	上・下巻	石波昌英
DIABOLUS―ディアボロス―	1～2	真弓和丸
ウェルカム トラブレイト ホリベッチワールド	1	堀部哲弘
じゃんぷる	1	週刊少年ジャンプ編集部

インターネットでも集英社のコミックスが購入できます!!
http://www.shueisha.co.jp

JUMP COMICS

23

今を生きる！

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

森田まさのり

集英社

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

23

森田まさのり

集英社

ジャンプ・コミックス

集英社

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・
団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。

森田まさのり

STUDIO Kit Man SINCE・1989

23 今を生きる！

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

JUMP COMICS

Previously on Rookies

The once in ruin baseball club has risen back up again with the help of the hot blooded teacher - Kawato. The one who managed to reassemble the chaotic first years was none other than him, and together they cleared the club's quest of continuity. The reborn Nikogaku baseball club embarked on their fresh restart. Their first practice game might have been a loss, but through that game the club members gained a dream. A dream called the "Koshien", a dream that became engraved into their hearts. In the fourth game of the summer national prelims, in the bottom of the 10th against the kings: Sasazaki High School. Aniya manages to hit Kawakami's forkball into the left stands by imagining it in his mind, leading the team to a glorious victory. But, Kawato got banned from attending anymore games for the rest of the tournament for approaching the opponents' bench during the game. Meanwhile the Nikogaku nine got into trouble with Megurogawa Highschool OB, resulting in an injury to Aniya's flank. Thanks to Megurogawa's coach Sawamura's intervention, the Japanese High School Baseball Association held off on a punishment, but only through winning can they escape the one year suspension. An injured ace. An absent coach. Against a team lead by their old nemesis: Enatsu. Dire straits? Let's see what happens in the fifth game against Megurogawa High School!

Character Introduction

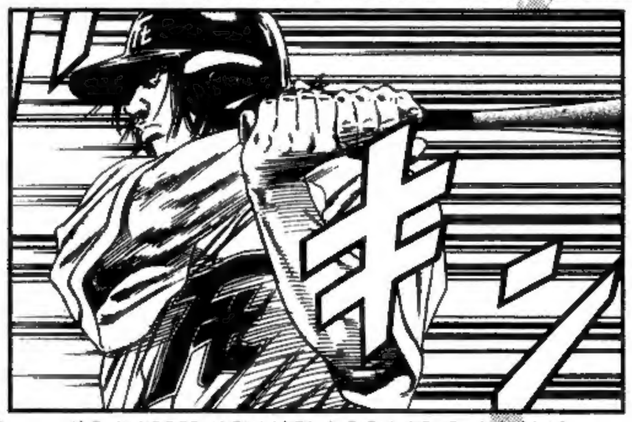
NATIONAL SUMMER PRELIM TOURNAMENT

EAST TOKYO TOURNAMENT

NIKOGAKU DIGEST

FLAMING ON THE INTERNET

SOCIETY DID NOT FORGET THE INCIDENT FROM THEIR PAST. BEFORE THE FIRST GAME, A TORRENT OF HATE FLAMED THEM ON THE INTERNET. KAWATO WAS WORRIED ABOUT HIS PLAYERS RETREATING BACK TOWARDS THEIR COMFORT ZONES, BUT THEY THEMSELVES WEREN'T REALLY BOTHERED, ALL THEY WERE THINKING ABOUT WAS THE GAME AT HAND.



NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, ANIYA IS NIKOGAKU'S PILLAR OF OFFENSE. BEARING THE ACE NUMBER OF FOUR, HIS PRESENCE IS BREATHTAKING.

NIKOGAKU, JOURNEY TO THE KOSHIEN!

THE AVALANCHE THAT IS NIKOGAKU STARTED WITH A PEBBLE OF WORDS FROM KAWATO.

THE SUMMER NATIONAL PRELIMS THAT LEAD TO THE KOSHIEN HAVE BEGUN. FIRST OFFICIAL GAME FOR THE DELINQUENTS OF NIKOGAKU BASEBALL CLUB. THE MEMBERS AND KAWATO'S DAYS AND DAYS OF PRACTICE ARE FINALLY ANSWERED, BY TAKING A HUGE FIRST STEP TOWARDS THE DREAM THAT IS THE KOSHIEN.

SECOND GAME

VS ASUMA BUSINESS HIGH SCHOOL

TWO COMPLETE CALLED SHUTOUTS IN A ROW!!

	1	2	3
FUTAKOTAMAGAWA	3	1	2
ASUMA SHOGYO	0	0	0

CALLED IN THE 5TH INNING

MUCH LIKE THE FIRST GAME, THIS ONE WAS ALSO PRETTY ONE SIDED TOWARDS NIKOGAKU. PEOPLE BEGAN TO QUESTION WHETHER NIKOGAKU WAS REALLY WINNING OUT OF SKILL, BUT EVEN SO, NIKOGAKU DID NOT WAVER AMIDST ALL THE TURMOIL

EVEN THE NAYSAYERS COULDN'T HIDE THEIR ASTONISHMENT AFTER SEEING NIKOGAKU'S POWER....

AFTER TWO CALLED GAMES IN A ROW, EVEN THE NINE THEMSELVES BEGAN TO FEEL CONFIDENT.

NEXT OPPONENT ARE THE KINGS: SASAZAKI!!!

FOR THEIR THIRD GAME, THEIR OPPONENT WAS THE VETERAN TEAM THAT HAD THE TOURNAMENT'S #1 ACE PITCHER, KAWAKAMI - THE KINGS: SASAZAKI HIGH SCHOOL

FIRST GAME

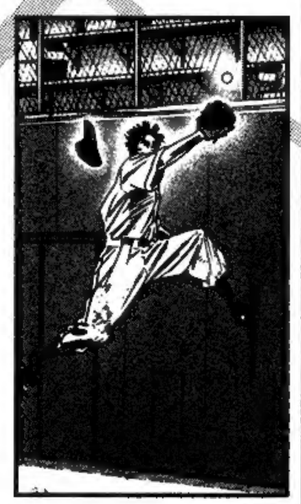
VS YOUGA DAICHI HIGH SCHOOL

NO HITS NO RUNS BACK SCREEN!!

	1	2	3
FUTAKOTAMAGAWA	2	0	1
YOUGA DAICHI	0	0	0

CALLED IN THE 6TH INNING

THE FIRST GAME'S OPPONENT WAS NONE OTHER THAN THE OPPONENT OF THE PRACTICE GAME THAT RESULTED IN THE UNFORTUNATE LOSS: YOUGA DAICHI HIGH SCHOOL. THE OPPONENT'S COACH KEPT LOOKING DOWN AND DISSING NIKOGAKU BEFORE THE GAME, BUT ONCE THE GENIE WAS OUT OF THE BOTTLE, THERE WAS NO MORE FIGHTING BACK. ANIYA, SHINJO AND AKABOSHI HAD THREE CONSECUTIVE HITS HITTING THE BACK SCREEN, AND AGAINST THE ACE ANIYA'S UNTOUCHABLE PITCH, THE OPPONENT WAS SO HELPLESS THAT IT RESULTED IN A PERFECT GAME.



ON THAT DAY, ANIYA AND SHINJO MANAGED TO SHAKE THE BACK SCREEN, AS WELL AS AKABOSHI. HIS INFIELDING PUT AN INSTANT SPOTLIGHT ON NIKOGAKU DURING THE PRELIMS.

THE SASAZAKI GAME CLIMAX

ANIYA VS KAWAKAMI

EVEN SEKIKAWA LOST HIS NERVE A LITTLE WHEN HE EXPERIENCED KAWAKAMI'S FORK BALL FOR THE FIRST TIME.

ANIYA HAD FACED KAWAKAMI ONCE BEFORE, WHEN HE WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. BACK THEN, KAWAKAMI MANAGED A NO HIT NO RUN GAME AND EVEN ANIYA SUFFERED UTTER DEFEAT IN THE BATTERS BOX. ANIYA ENTERED THE GAME WITH THE THOUGHT OF HITTING KAWAKAMI'S FORKBALL IMPRINTED IN HIS MIND.

A DIFFERENT LEVEL

KAWAKAMI'S SHARP SINKING FORK LED THE NIKOGAKU NINE AROUND BY THE NOSE. ADDING INSULT TO INJURY IS AN EXISTENCE AT THE NUMBER FOUR SPOT CALLED BESSHO. HE IS WITHOUT A DOUBT A MAJOR CONTENDER FOR THE TOURNAMENT'S BEST SLUGGER. HIS POWER IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT ALTOGETHER.

THE CANNON OF SASAZAKI; BESSHO. HE MANAGED 2 RUNS FROM THE GET GO (OUT OF THE PARK).

GUTTER BASEBALL

LITTLE BY LITTLE, NIKOGAKU MANAGED TO GET THEIR OWN RHYTHM BACK FIGHTING AGAINST SASAZAKI BY CHASING AROUND THE BALL DANGEROUSLY AND RECKLESSLY. AT THE BOTTOM OF THE THIRD INNING, WITH ANIYA'S TIMELY HIT AND SEKIKAWA'S SUPER FAST BASE STEALING, THEY FINALLY MANAGED TO TAKE THE LEAD.

NIKOGAKU UNITES IN GUTTER BASEBALL AGAINST THE KINGS: SASAZAKI.

YET ANOTHER CASUALTY

AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SECOND INNING, WAKANA MANAGED TO GET THE BALL BACK EVEN AFTER IT HIT HIS FINGER. BUT HE HAD TO BE SUBBED OUT
BECAUSE OF THAT INJURY. AFTER THAT, MIKOSHIBA HIT A FENCE WHILE CHASING AFTER A FOUL BALL IN THE SEVENTH INNING, AND THEN SEKIKAWA GOT INJURED BY A FRIENDLY BALL IN THE EIGHTH.

MIKOSHIBA, WHO TOOK WAKANA'S PLACE, AND THEN SEKIKAWA WERE ALL INJURED.

KAWATO'S RAGE!

COACH CHIBA'S IDEOLOGY OF ABANDONING ONESELF FOR THE SAKE OF THE TEAM, AND HOW A PLAYER THAT DIDN'T FOLLOW THE SIGNS IS TREATED ENRAGED KAWATO. WITH THAT, HE WENT TO THE OPPONENTS' BENCH PROTESTING "YOU'RE STEPPING AND CRUSHING THE FEELINGS OF THE PLAYERS THAT DEDICATED THEIR LIVES TOWARDS BASEBALL!!"

KAWATO WAS BAFFLED AT SASAZAKI'S COACH CHIBA FOR IGNORING THE PLAYERS FEELINGS. HERE HE STANDS AT THE OPPONENTS BENCH EXPRESSING HIS RAGE.

THE TIDES ARE TIED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE NINTH!

THE SCORE WAS 5 TO 4 FOR SASAZAKI AS THE BOTTOM OF THE NINTH INNING STARTED. IN THIS INNING, NIKOGAKU WAS BACKED INTO A CORNER WITH TWO OUTS, BUT THEN YUFUNE'S INFIELD SAFETY HIT REVIVED THEIR SLIVER OF HOPE. AT LAST, THE PITCH HITTER, HIRATSUKA, ENTERS THE SCENE. HE WHO CAN ONLY HIT A BALL THAT COMES TOWARDS HIS FACE, INTENTIONALLY LOWERED HIS FACE TOWARDS THE BALL, RESULTING IN A MAGNIFICENT RBI THAT TIED THE GAME.

BOTTOM OF THE NINTH INNING: THE SECRET WEAPON, HIRATSUKA, FINALLY ENTERS THE GAME, UNLEASHING THE TYING RBI.

EXTRA INNINGS, AND THEN...!?

THE GAME WENT INTO EXTRA INNINGS, WITH KAWATO'S PROTESTS REAWAKENING THE TRUE SASAZAKI SPIRIT OF COACH CHIBA AND THE SASAZAKI NINE.

ANIYA HITS A BIG ONE TOWARDS THE LEFT STANDS: A PIERCING LINER!

ANIYA MANAGED TO MUSTER UP THE LAST OF HIS STRENGTH FOR A STRAIGHT UP SHOWDOWN. THE TOP OF THE TENTH INNING CAME TO AN UNEXPECTED OUTCOME WHEN HE MANAGED TO STRIKE OUT BESSHO RESULTING IN NO POINTS. THE BOTTOM OF THAT SAME INNING, ANIYA CAME UP THE PLATE WITH A RUNNER ON SECOND BASE. HE HIT KAWAKAMI'S FORK WITH ALL HIS MIGHT BEHIND IT. IT'S A PERFECT HIT, A HUGE LINER TOWARDS THE LEFT STANDS. NIKOGAKU FOUGHT AND PREVAILED MOST ADMIRABLY AGAINST THE KINGS.

FUTAKOTAMAGAWA	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1
SASAZAKI	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	2 x
									5 7

ROOKIES ルーキーズ

23 CONTENTS

Vol.216 TV Broadcast ——— 11

Vol.217 The New Megurogawa ——— 31

Vol.218 The Good, the Bad and the Hiratsuka ——— 51

Vol.219 Brother ——— 73

Vol.220 Mismatch ——— 93

Vol.221 Time to Live! ——— 113

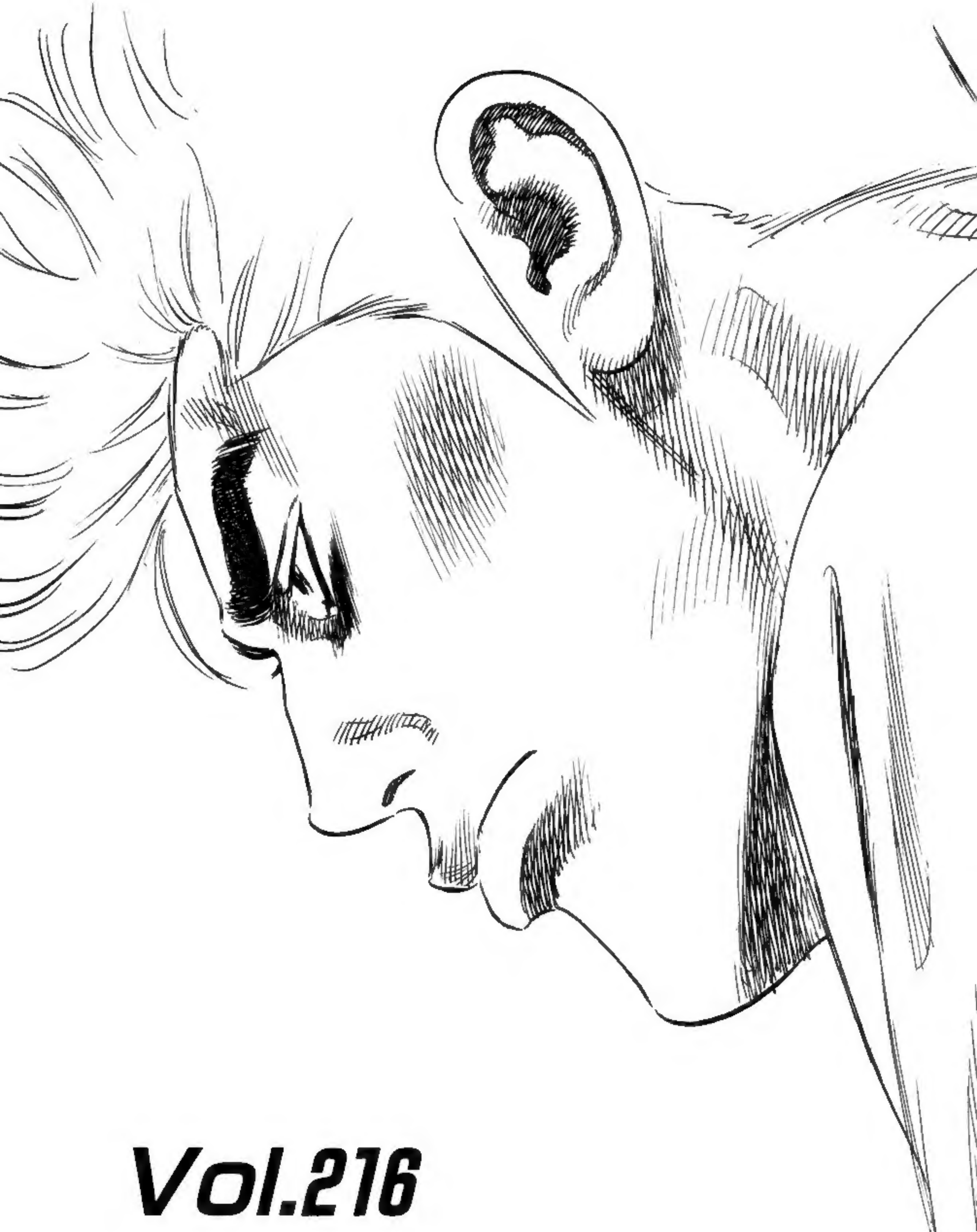
Vol.222 Anesthesia ——— 133

Vol.223 Resolve ——— 151

Vol.224 Captain ——— 169

今(いま)を生(い)きる！

STUDIO Kitman SINCE・1989



Vol.216

TV Broadcast

HOW ARE YOU GONNA PLAY WITHOUT A COACH TODAY!?

ARE YOU GONNA BE ABLE TO PITCH TODAY!?

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU GOT INJURED, ANIYA-KUN?

WON'T YOU GIVE US A COMMENT, IKEBE-SAN!?

ALL EYES ARE ON NIKOGAKU RIGHT NOW!

TELL US THE TRUTH, MIKOSHIBA!!

ARE THOSE BRUISES ON YOUR FACE FROM A FIGHT!?

...

COME ON, TELL US SOME-THING!

HEY ANIYA-KUN, PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT YOU GOT HIT PRETTY HARD YESTERDAY...

JUST FORGET ABOUT IT.

EEEH!? WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?

FUFUFU... TODAY'S BATTING ORDER WILL BE EXCITING.

HIRA-TSUKA!

HERE'S A HINT: H.T. IS FOURTH.

...

WE HAVE TO FOCUS ON THE GAME.

DO THEY REALLY WANT US TO BE THE VIOLENT SCHOOL THAT MUCH?

ALL THEY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IS YESTERDAY.

...SHEESH. THOSE REPORTERS ARE FUCKIN' ANNOYING!

AAAHHH... I GUESS WE'RE THE BAD GUYS AGAIN.

AND NOT EVEN A SINGLE PERSON SAW US OFF AT SCHOOL.

WE'LL HAVE ENEMIES SPREAD THROUGH THE STANDS...

OH WELL... IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

IT'S NIKOGA-KUUUUU!!

HMM?

ギィ…

OHHHH! THERE THEY ARE!

THEY'RE HERE!!

WE'VE BEEN WAITIIIIN'!!

OOOHH!?

OHH...

SHOW US ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR FABULOUS GAMES!

ALRIGHT, DO YOUR BEEEST!

IS THAT THEM!? IS THAT NIKOGA-KUUU!?

.....

AMAZIN'...

NO WAY... THEY'RE CHEERING FOR US...?

THE FANS UNDER-STAND... KAWATO-KUN...!

WE'RE NOT THE BAD GUYS...

SHIN-JOOO!

ANI-YAAAA!

ANIYA-KUUUUN!

SHOW US THE 160KM/H PITCHES TODAAAAY!

....

WE CAME TO WAAATCH!

MIKO-SHIBA-KUUUN!

WAKA-NAAAA!

GOOD LUCK!!

HUH!?

HEEEEEEY! YOU GUYS, OVER HERE!

ANIYA-KUUUUN!!

BUT WE'LL CHEER YOU ON AS BEST AS WE CAN!

WE'RE SORRY WE CAN'T BE CHEER-LEADERS!

OH MY, YOU'RE RIGHT...

I'M SORRY.

OH... OH NO, FUJITA-SENSEI. DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU'D BE SORTING THROUGH THE TEACHING MATERIALS?

ISN'T THAT ALMOST THE WHOLE SCHOOL?

I... IT'S THEM...

.....

THE TEACHERS ARE HERE TOO...

THEY WEREN'T AT SCHOOL... BECAUSE THEY ALL CAME HERE...

HA...

HAHA...

WHO WAS THAT NUMBER 10 AGAIN?

GOOD LUCK, NUMBER 10!

OH YEAH!!

ALRIGHT, LET'S GOOOO!!

YEAAAH!!

VICTORY WILL BE OURS!!

WHAT TROUBLE-SOME TEACHERS.

THEY WENT TO CHEER THOSE TROUBLE-MAKERS ON...

WOULD ACTUALLY BE ATTRACTED TO THIS WEIRDO...

TO THINK THAT RIE...

Yakuza

HMPH...

Click

W... WHAT IS IT, RIE!?

YOU SHOULD AT LEAST KNOCK!

IS SOMETHING THE MATTER? YOU SEEM FLUSTERED.

I DID.

NOW, HERE AT THE MEIJI JINGU STADIUM, THE FIFTH GAME OF THE SUMMER EAST TOKYO CHAMPIONSHIP WILL TAKE PLACE!

THE MEGUROGAWA HIGH SCHOOL VS FUTAKOTAMAGAWA ACADEMY GAME IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.

Click

!

KNOCK KNOCK

EXCUSE ME.

NO, I WANTED TO WATCH IT WITH YOU, UNCLE.

Beep

Y... YOU CAN JUST USE THE ONE IN THE STAFF ROOM!

I WANT TO WATCH TV.

D... DO YOU NEED SOME-THING ...!?

....

WAAA! WAAA!

W... WHAAAT ...

THE EVER RELIABLE SECOND-YEAR COMBO.

THE MEGUROGAWA NINE ARE ON DEFENSE.

WAA! WAAA...

ENATSU IS THE PITCHER AGAIN, AND THE CATCHER IS STILL KONO.

SOME OF US MIGHT REMEMBER THEM FROM LAST YEAR'S SPRING TOURNAMENT WHERE THEY CAUSED AN UNBELIEVABLE SCANDAL.

AND PLEASE LOOK, HERE WE HAVE THE BENCH OF THE TEAM THAT PREVAILED AGAINST THE SASAZAKI GAME TWO DAYS AGO; THE TEAM WHOSE NAME IS SPREADING LIKE WILD FIRE; FUTAKOTAMAGAWA ACADEMY.

HOWEVER, COACH KAWATO IS NOWHERE TO BE SEEN ON THEIR BENCH FOR THIS GAME.

AND IN ONLY TEN MONTHS, THE TEAM ROSE UP TO A TEAM ON PAR WITH THE SASAZAKI. THE ONE WHO PULLED THEM BACK UP IS THE ROOKIE COACH, KAWATO.

BUT THE PLAYERS CAME BACK AFTER A HALF YEAR SUSPENSION ALL THE WAY TO THIS TOURNAMENT.

KUH...

HOWEVER, IT SEEMS THAT THE PLAYERS HAVE GREAT CONFIDENCE IN COACH KAWATO.

.....

THE ACTING COACH IS THE CLUB LEADER, IKEBE-SAN.

HOW SHAMEFUL!

IF YOU WANT TO BE UNDERSTOOD, YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THEM FIRST.

IF YOU WANT TO BE TRUSTED, YOU HAVE TO TRUST THEM.

I DON'T KNOW HOW THAT MAN MANAGED TO GAIN IT, BUT...

HMPH, WHAT TRUST?

HUH?

HE BELIEVES IN THE PLAYERS.

"THAT MAN"?

SO WHAT ABOUT YOU, UNCLE. WON'T YOU TRY TO UNDERSTAND

RIE?

DO YOU THINK THAT HIGHLY OF THAT MAN,

.....

WAAAA! WAAA!!

TOP OF THE FIRST INNING, FUTAKOTAMAGAWA ACADEMY ON OFFENSE...

WAAA... WAAAA!

WAAA! WAAAA...

LET'S GOOOO, SHIN-JOOOO!

GO AFTER THE FIRST PIITCH, THE FIRST PIIIITCH!

FIRST BATTER, CENTER FIELDER, SHINJO-KUN.

WEARING NUMBER 5.

CENTER FIELDER, SHINJO-KUN.

SHIN-JOOOO!

SHIN-JOOO-KUUUN!!

PLAY BAAALL!

TOSHIBA

KIRIN

ENEOS

AND NOW, THE GAME IS UNDERWAY.

FUTAKOTAMAGAWA HAS MADE DRASTIC CHANGES IN THEIR BATTING ORDER FOR THIS GAME.

GO FOR THE FIRST PITCH, SHINJO!

GO FOR IIIIT!

THIS FUCKIN' BATTING ORDER OF YERS...

ARE YOU EVEN TRYIN' TO WIN?

HHH

MY GOODNESS! HE CONNECTED ON THE FIRST PITCH HE SAW!!

ARE YOU KID-DIN'...!?

OOOOH!!

NO WAY...

A.... AND IT'S GOOOOOONE!

TOKYO

9

WHOHOOOOAAA!!

UNBELIE-VABLE!

N... NO WAY!

KONAMI KONAMI

アサヒビール Asahi アサヒビール

THE SIREN THAT BEGINS THE MATCH IS STILL SOUNDING.

THAT WAS AMAZIN'!

IT WENT OVER THE RIGHT FIELD BEFORE THE SIREN FINISHED SOUNDING.

THIS IS...

THIS IS THE SLUGGER SHINJO'S BATTING!

THE NIKOGAKU BENCH IS REJOICING

ENATSU IS DUMB-FOUNDED ON THE MOUND.

GREAT!

NOW KEEP IT UP ALL THE WAY!

Click

Vol.217

The New Megurogawa

YER SWING IS AS TERRIFYING AS EVER.

NIKOGAKU DRAWS FIRST BLOOD!

THAT WAS FUCKIN' GREAT!!

WHOAAA, SHINJO OOOO!

JUST AS THE GAME STARTED, SHINJO, BATTING FIRST TODAY, SPLENDIDLY HIT THE VERY FIRST PITCH TO THE RIGHT STANDS.

KYAAAAA! WE LOVE YOU, SHINJO-KUUUUN!

SHINJO OOO!!

ENAAATSU!! DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU! JUST KEEP IT UP!

TOKYO

OSHIBA

TOKYO

BUT BE CAREFUL!

NOW KEEP IT UP, IMAOKA!

HE STILL HAS THE BEAN BALL!

STRIIIIIKE, BATTER OOOOUT!

TOSHIBA

THE BALLS KEPT FLIRTING WITH THE STRIKE ZONE ON THE INSIDE!

IMAOKA HAS BEEN STRUCK OUT IN THREE STRAIGHT STRIKES!

NICE PITCH, ENATSU!

SHIIIIIT! LOOKIN' GOOD, MAN. THAT WAS AWESOME!

IT WOULD SEEM THAT SHINJO'S HOMERUN HASN'T HAD ANY EFFECT ON ENATSU.

UUH...

.....

HE IS CALMLY ATTACKING THE CORNERS OF THE DIAMOND.

'SUP.

THIRD BATTER, PITCHER AKABOSHI-KUN.

PITCHER AKABOSHI-KUN.

JERSEY NUMBER 11.

AKABO-SHIIIIIII, WE'RE COUNTIN' ON YA!

.....

HOHO...

!?

11

THE SECOND BASEMAN SHIBATA GETS THERE JUST IN TIME!

W... WAIT, IT'S A GROUNDER THAT WAS CAUGHT BY THE SECOND BASEMAN.

HE HIT IT WITH ALL OF HIS MIGHT TOWARDS RIGHT FIELD!

RIGHT BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND BASE...

THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A HIT!

.....

AAAHH... LUCKY PLAY.

000000 OOUTT!!

.....

HE READ THE TRAJECTORY BEFORE AKABOSHI HIT THE BALL...

NO... IT WAS A GOOD PLAY...

GOOD GOIN', SHIBATA!

YEAH, YEAH!

SCREAM LOUDER!

YEAH, PASS THE BALL!

MEGURO-GAWA'S CHANGED.

THEY'VE CHANGED ...

.....

TWO OOOOUTS!!

SPEAKING OF ENATSU, HE'S MADE SOME SUBTLE IMPROVEMENTS TO HIS PITCHES...

ENATSU USED TO THROW HIS PITCHES WILDLY IF WE'D CONNECT ON ONE...

EVEN MORE IMPOR-TANTLY...

NO...

FINISH 'EM OFF, ENATSU!

NIKOGAKU SUCKS!

YEAH, WE GOT TWO OUTS!!

JERSERY NUMBER 10.

THIRD BASEMAN, HIRATSUKA-KUN.

FOURTH BATTER, THIRD BASEMAN, HIRATSUKA-KUN.

HOHO.

WHOA, THAT IDIOT'S MIMICKING BESSHO.

WHEN DID HE...

BAT-TER UP!

Y'ALL CAME TO SEE A MIRACLE TODAY, RIGHT!?

AND YOU'RE ALL GONNA REMEMBER MY NAME...

YEAAAH!! SORRY FOR THE WAIT!!

THE LEGENDARY WALK OFF MAN IS HEEEEERE! MISTER SAYONARA!!

ALRIGHT, A ONE POINT HANDICAP SOUNDS ABOUT FAIR.

GOOD GOIN', ENATSU! YOUR PITCHING'S AWESOME!

THIS GAME IS OURS!

YEAH!

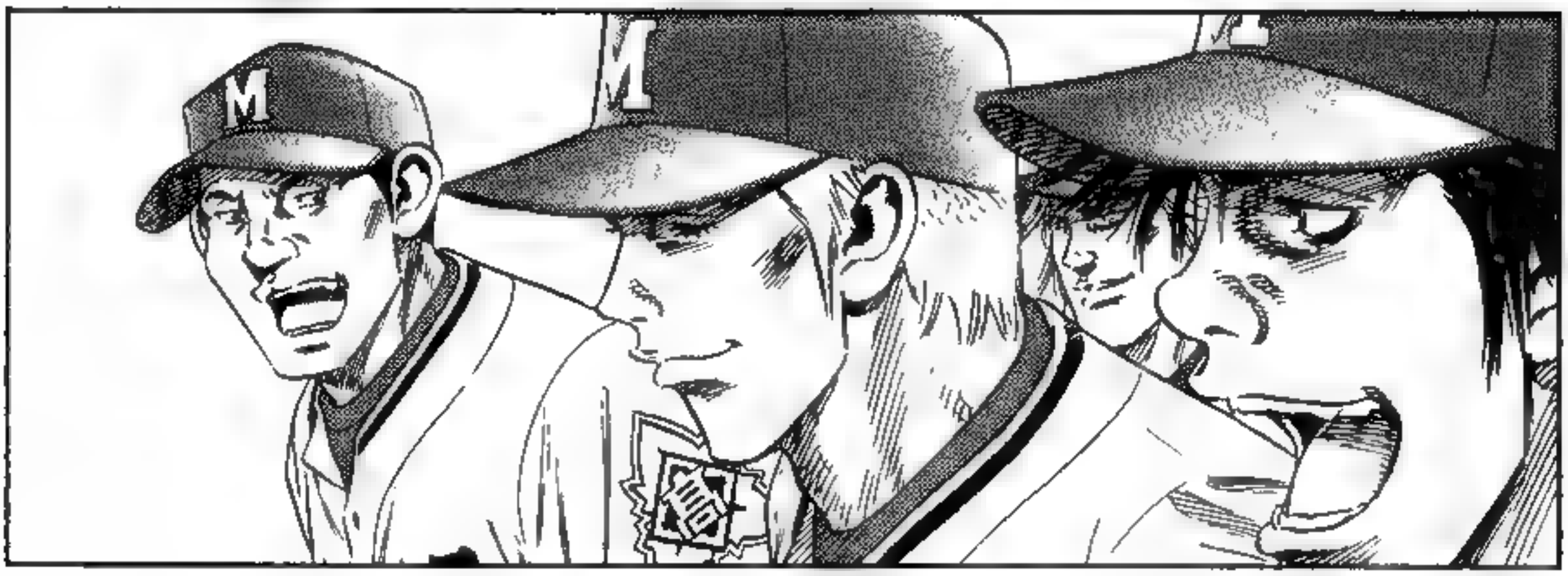
TOSHIBA

KIRIN

ENEOS

NUMBER FOUR HIRATSUKA DIDN'T EVEN GRAZE THE BALL!

STRIIIIKE, BATTER OOOOOUT!



THEY REALLY DID...
THEY'VE CHANGED...

THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY TEAM WORK BEFORE...
ALL THEY DID WAS EACH SELFISHLY PLAY BASEBALL ON THEIR OWN...

UNBELIE-VABLE...
IS THIS REALLY THE SAME MEGURO-GAWA?

LET'S GO!
YEAAAAH!

!
ito

SHI...

OOOOO
OOOUT!

USUALLY THE SECOND BASEMAN, MIKOSHIBA'S PLAYING JUST AS WELL AS A CATCHER!

THERE ARE NOW TWO OUTS!!

HE CAUGHT IT! HE CAUGHT IT DIVING!!

THE HERO FROM THE GAME AGAINST SASAZAKI IS BATTING NINTH AND PLAYING FIRST BASE.

YOU'RE SO COOL, MIKO-SHIBA-KUN!

NIKOGAKU'S MADE A LOT OF CHANGES TO THEIR TEAM ON THE DEFENSIVE SIDE AS WELL!

RUMOR HAS IT THAT HE HAS AN INJURY ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF HIS BODY... WILL HE BE ABLE TO PITCH AT ANY POINT OF THIS GAME?

PARTICU-LARLY...

WHEN THE LINEUP WAS ANNOUNCED ON THE SCOREBOARD BEFORE THE GAME, IT CAUSED A HUGE COMMOTION.

SURELY NOT, IF HE WAS A HINDRANCE THEY WOULDN'T PUT HIM IN FROM THE START.

HE MUST REALLY BE INJURED THEN.

ANIYA AS THE FIRST BASEMAN?

THEY'RE GOING ALL OUT!!

NIKOGAKU IS FIGHTING AGAINST FATE AND DESTINY IN THIS GAME.

THERE'S NO WAY THEY'RE GIVING UP!!

HEHEHE... MAYBE THEY GAVE UP FROM THE START.

THE COACH AIN'T EVEN THERE.

TUMBLING DICE
WIN
単勝
WIN
★10000円
★★★1000★★100
……
OH...
FATE?
OWW!
PLEASE STOP SLACKING OFF!
OH, SHUT UP!
I BET YOU WENT AND BOUGHT THAT WHEN YOU DISAPPEARED EARLIER!
AHHHH, YOSHI-SAN... WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH A HORSE RACING TICKET?
THE BATTER HIT THAT OUTSIDE PITCH HARD!
IT'S A LINE DRIVE HEADING TOWARDS FIRST BASE!
THIS IS AS SERIOUS AS IT GETS.

GUH...

YOU OKAY?

NIKOGAKU'S SHOWING OFF ALL OF THEIR TALENTS!

THIS IS THE TENACITY THAT ALLOWED THEM TO DEFEAT SASAZAKI.

...HEH, I-IN YER FACE...

ANIYA!

HE CAUGHT IIIIT! THIS ONE WAS CAUGHT AS WELL!

OOOOOO OOOOT!!

THIS TIME IT WAS A GREAT PLAY BY ANIYA!

ARE NIL.

THE CHANCES THAT THESE IMPOSTORS CAN WIN AND SURVIVE

THEY'RE PRETTY WELL SO FAR. AREN'T THEY, CHAIRMAN?

.....

.....

.....

CHAIRMAN.

BA... NO...

NIKOGAKU WAS QUICKLY SHUT DOWN IN THE TOP OF THE SECOND INNING.

ENATSU'S CONTROL ON HIS PITCHES IS MASTERFUL!

HOHO.

STRIIIKE, BATTER OUT!

ANOTHER PITCH THAT FLIRTED WITH THE CORNER OF THE STRIKE ZONE AND MIKOSHIBA DIDN'T EVEN FLINCH!

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO TAKE A GOOD, HARD LOOK AT YOURSELF.

BEING REBORN IS EASY...

目黒川

SINCE YOU WERE ALL TALENTED TO BEGIN WITH...

YOU WILL DEFINITELY BECOME STRONGER.

AS LONG AS YOU ABANDON THAT WORTHLESS PRIDE AND THOSE NEGATIVE FEELINGS THAT CAME WITH IT.

AS LONG AS YOU GET BACK TO THE STARTING POINT OF YOUR PASSION.

IT WAS YOUR TEAM THAT TAUGHT US THAT LESSON, KAWATO-SENSEI...!!

YOU KNOW, KAWATO-SENSEI, IT WAS YOUR TEAM THAT SHOWED THE PATH TO MY STUDENTS...

FOURTH BATTER, CATCHER KONO-KUN.

JERSEY NUMBER 2.

CATCHER KONO-KUN.

BOTTOM OF THE SECOND, MEGUROGAWA'S NOW AT BAT.

PLAY BALL!

BUT WE CAN'T RUN AWAY... WE WON'T RUN AWAY...!

MAN, IT'S KONO...

PUSH HIM BACK, AKABO-SHI! DO YOU HEAR ME!?

AKABO-SHI...

HUH?

HE'S A GOOD PITCHER... IT'S TOO BAD, THOUGH.

HE'S STILL TOO GREEN.

YOU CAN SEE THE KIND OF BALL HE'S GOING TO THROW FROM HIS EXPRESSION.

HOHO.

OAK
2

目黒川

HE HIT IIIIIIIIIT!!

HOW FAR WILL THIS SOARING CANNON OF A HIT GOOOOO!?

EOS

N

Vol.218

The Good, the Bad and the Hiratsuka

Vol.218
The Good, the Bad and the Hiratsuka

ROOKIES

AMAZING!!

WITH KONO'S SUPERHUMAN SWING, IT DISAPPEARED OVER THE STANDS IN RIGHT FIELD INTO THE JINGUU FOREST!

IT'S GOOONE!

IT'S GONE OUT OF THE PARK!!

GYAHA HAHA! YOU HIT IT TOO HARD!

YEAH!! NICE BATTING, KONO!

GYAHA HAHAHA!

AND BY THE WAY, YOU LOOK WAY TOO OLD!

FUCK!

AHH...

HOHO...

HAHAHA!

F... FOR REAL...

THE NIKOGAKU CHEERING STOPPED ALL OF A SUDDEN LIKE SOMEONE POURED COLD WATER ON THEM.

ALONG WITH BESSHO FROM SASAZAKI, THEY'RE UNDOUBTEDLY THE BEST SLUGGERS IN THIS TOURNAMENT!

KONO IS FEARSOME!

TOYOTA

フジテレビ

YEAH, IT'S ONLY A TIE.

DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, AKABOSHI!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!!

LETTING THEM HAVE ONE IS ABOUT FAIR!

THOUGHT SO!

LUCK?

.....

CONTINUE PITCHING THE SAME WAY!!

THAT WAS JUST LUCK!

HIT ONE TO THE THIRD BASE!

YEAAAAH!! BRING IT OOON!

YEAAAH! HE'S CHAL-LENGING ME!

THE FIFTH BATTER, MATSUI, HITS A ROUTINE GROUNDER TO THIRD BASE.

THIRD BASEMAN HIRATSUKA COMPLETELY MISSED THE BALL!

HOLD ON, HE DIDN'T CATCH IT!

YEAH!

THE BALL WENT RIGHT TO LEFT FIELD!

YEAAAH!

SO LAME! THAT WAS SO LAME, HIRATSUKA-SAN!

AAHHH!! WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING, YOU IDIOT!?

TAKE THIS!!

I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING...

YEAH!!

IT'S A BUNT!

AH!

TOKYO

NO, IT'S A FAKE BUNT!

ｺﾞｵｵｵ

HOWEVER, MEGUROGAWA NOW HAS RUNNERS ON FIRST AND SECOND WITH NO OUTS!

THE IMMORTAL HIRATSUKA!

HE'S SHOWING THE AUDIENCE THAT HE'S DOING JUST FINE, WITH A BIG SMILE ON H'S FACE.

ANOTHER HIT TOWARDS THIRD BASE!

AND THE BALL WENT THROUGH TO THE OUTFIELD YET AGAIN!

...

M... MOTHER FUCKER...

ALL THROUGH HITS TOWARDS THE THIRD BASE!

BASES LOADED!

HIRATSUKA JUST CAN'T SEEM TO GET HIS HANDS ON THE BALL! IS IT BECAUSE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME HE'S BEEN PART OF THE STARTING LINEUP?

SUDDENLY, THE BASES ARE LOADED WITH NO OUTS IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE!

HIRA-TSUKA-KUN...

MAYBE IT WAS TOO EARLY FOR HIRATSUKA AFTER ALL...

IT'S CLEAR THAT THEY'RE AIMING AT THE THIRD BASE...

WHY THE HELL DID THAT MORON DIVE TO THE SIDE FOR IT...?

WASN'T THAT BALL FLYING STRAIGHT AT HIM?

CAN'T, LIKE, SEKIKAWA SUB IN FOR HIM OR SOME-THIN'!?

CHATTER

IT'S JUST TOO MUCH FOR HIRATSUKA...

WHAT'S GOIN' ON WITH HIM?

THIS MUST BE HARD ON ANIYA TOO...

IF POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO AVOID HITS TOWARDS THE FIRST BASE AS WELL...

BUT NO INSIDE PITCHES, WE CAN'T HAVE ANYMORE BALLS HEADING FOR THIRD BASE.

WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO GIVE AWAY A POINT.

11

HOW IN THE HELL ARE WE GOING TO GET OUT OF THIS GAME...?

OOOOKAY.

NOW THEN, WITH BASES LOADED AND NO OUTS, THE EIGHT BATTER NIOKA IS UP AT PLATE.

ALTHOUGH THE GAME IS STILL IN ITS EARLY STAGES, MEGUROGAWA IS CLEARLY TAKING TAKING CONTROL.

PLAY!

HAHAHA! I'M READY!! HIT ANOTHER BALL AT ME! ALL OF YOU COME AT ME!

HAHAHA!! IF IT GOES TO THIRD, ALL OF THE RUNNERS'LL COME HOME!

YOU HEAR THAT, NIOKA? HIT IT TO THIRD BASE JUST LIKE WANTS IT!

AN OUTSIDE PITCH THAT WAS TOO FAR OUT.

BALL!

FIRST PITCH...

HEY, HEEEEY! AKABOSHI, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, MAN!?

YOU GOTTA LET THEM HIT IT TOWARDS THE THIRD BASE!

BELIEVE IN HIRATSUKA.

DON'T BACK DOWN, AKABOSHI.

?

BUT I KNOW THAT...

SEEN FROM AN OUTSIDE PERSPECTIVE, YOU PROBABLY LOOK LIKE SOMEONE WHO'S PUTTING ON A FRONT TO HIDE YOUR INSECURITY...

HIRATSUKA,

YOU'RE PROBABLY LAUGHING AND JOKING AROUND NOW.

THAT'S HOW YOU GIVE YOURSELF CONFIDENCE!

THERE'S NO ONE THAT ISN'T AFRAID THE FIRST TIME THEY PLAY DEFENSE.

BECAUSE YOU UNDERSTAND HOW MANY BALLS YOU NEEDED BEFORE YOU COULD CATCH THEM.

BUT IT'S ABOUT TIME THAT YOUR ENGINE WARMED UP!

OHH... SH.. SHIT...

HE HIT IT TOWARDS HIS STRONG SIDE!

CRAP! IT'S AN INSIDE PITCH!

A LINE DRIVE TOWARDS THIRD BASE!!

OOHHH!

GOT YOUUU!

THE RUNNERS ALL TOOK OFF AT ONCE!

HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP GETTING HITS FROM THE THIRD BASE!?

HE CAUGHT IT!!

HIRATSUKA'S FIRST CATCH WAS IN MID AIR!

WHOAAAA!!

AND NOW HE STEPS ON THE BA... HUH? WAIT, HE ISN'T?

STEP ON THE BASE AND THROW IT OVER HERE, HIRATSU-KA!

WHOA! HE CAUGHT IT!

NO, HE DIDN'T STEP ON THE BASE!!

WHAT!?

HE JUST THREW THE BALL TOWARDS FIRST BASE WITHOUT TOUCHING THE BAG!!

WHAT... YOU MEAN... HE CAUGHT IT!?

GO BACK! RETURN TO THIRD BASE, MATSUIIII!

WH... WHAT!?

UGGH!

OOOUT!

THE THIRD BASE RUNNER ALMOST RAN ALL THE WAY HOME!!

AND PLAYING FIRST BASE IS THE EVER RELIABLE ANIVA!

OWWW!!

AHHH! HE'S MESSED UP HIS THROW! HE THREW IT INTO THE GROUND!

ANIVA DIDN'T THROW THE BALL WELL AT ALL!

FFF

AKABOSHI PICKS IT UP AND THROWS IT TOWARDS THIRD!!

SHI...

IT'S HEEEERE!!

OOOOUT!

WHOA!

HE'S OUT! THE RUNNER IS OUT AT THIRD!! A TRIPLE PLAAAAY!

YESSS!

HOLY! YOU SCARED ME, DUDE.

A TRIPLE PLAY!

WHAT THE HELL KIND OF PLAY WAS THAT!?

AMAZ-ING!

DID YOU SEE THAT, GUYS!?

IT MIGHT HAVE INITIALLY LOOKED LIKE A FOOLISH CHOICE, BUT HIRATSUKA'S THROW TO FIRST BASE WAS ACTUALLY SOUND JUDGMENT THAT THEY COULD GET THE RUNNER ON FIRST BASE OUT AND STILL MAKE IT IN TIME FOR THE ONE ON THIRD.

SO, ONLY THE RUNNER ON THIRD BASE GOT TOO FAR AWAY FROM HIS BASE!

DID EVERY-ONE IN THE CROWD SEE THAT!?

BULLSHIT!

WHY DIDN'T YOU THROW IT TO SECOND BASE THEN? YOU MORON!

HAHAHA! HOW'D YOU LIKE MY PLAN!? NOW THAT'S HOW A SUPERSTAR READS THE ENEMY!

OF COURSE!

Vol.219 BROTHER

J... JUST AS I THOUGHT/

IT SHOULDN'T BE SO SURPRISING.

IT WAS A MISTAKE BY MEGURO-GAWA.

HMMM...

KONA

A TRIPLE PLAY, EH?

OR MAYBE WE SHOULD ORDER ANIYA TO LEAVE THE GAME UNDER PRETEXT OF HIS INJURY?

NIKOGAKU IS JUST DIGGING ITS OWN GRAVE AT THIS POINT, WITH THAT PROMISE AT THE BOTTOM OF IT. HEHEHE...

HE PROBABLY INJURED HIMSELF DURING THAT DAMN FIGHT.

IF THEIR BEST PLAYER IS INJURED LIKE THAT...

ANIYA DOESN'T SEEM TO BE DOING TOO WELL.

HUH?

YOU HAVEN'T COMPLETELY UNDERSTOOD...

IF THEY'RE A TEAM WORTHY OF ME TURNING A BLIND EYE TO ALL THEIR SCANDALOUS AFFAIRS.

ABOUT THIS NIKOGAKU TEAM.

I WANT TO BE CERTAIN

AND SUB-SEQUENTLY, THEY WON'T BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TOURNAMENT FOR A YEAR...

THEY'LL APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE.

BUT IF THEY DO LOSE, THEN TOO BAD FOR THEM.

IF THEY LOSE, I WON'T ALLOW THEM TO USE INJURIES TO THEIR PLAYERS AS AN EXCUSE.

.....

I DON'T SPECIFICALLY *WANT* THEM TO LOSE THIS GAME...

AH, WELL...

LET'S WAIT AND SEE HOW THIS PLAYS OUT.

AND THEY WON'T HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO TO THE KOSHIEN!

HMPH.

NUMBER 12, HAMANAKA, IS NEXT UP IN THE BATTER'S CIRCLE.

OH, IT'S BECAUSE HAMANAKA'S THERE.

MI KONAMI

ANIYA IS NOT THE NEXT BATTER!!

PLAY!

NOW WE'RE IN THE TOP OF THE THIRD INNING, AND IT'S NIGOGAKU'S TURN AT BAT. NOW UP AT PLATE, THE EIGHT BATTER, HIYAMA.

CHATTER

SAY, THERE SEEMS TO BE A LOT MORE NOISE IN THE CROWD THAN USUAL...

WHAT'S GOING ON?

CHATTER

JUST A FEW MOMENTS AGO, ANIYA WAS UNABLE TO THROW THE BALL FROM FIRST BASE TO THIRD BASE.

CHATTER

NO WAY!?

OH NO... ANIYA-KUN ISN'T GOING TO PLAY IN THE GAME ANYMORE!?

CHATTER

IS HE SERIOUSLY INJURED? IS HE GOING TO BE SUBSTITUTED OUT OF THE GAME?

HAH
HAH
HIYAMA WAS BLEW AWAY BY AN INSIDE PITCH, BUT IT REMA NED IN THE STRIKE ZONE!
ANIYA...
HIYAMA'S FIRST PITCH...
HAH
HAH
STRIKE ONE!
HIYAMA HAS STARTED DOING SOME PRACTICE SWINGS.
UGGH! YOU ANNOYING LITTLE...!
C'MON AND CHANGE ALREADY! HURRY UP!!
押
WHAAAT!? THE LIGHT'S RED!!
EH...!? ERMM...
OHHH! YOUUU!! ARE YOU LISTENING TO THE RADIO!?
IT'S A ONE-ONE TIE IN THE TOP OF THE THIRD INNING...
THE HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL GAME!! THE ONE THAT'S BEING PLAYED NEARBY!! HOW FAR IN ARE THEY!?
HMM?

PROBLEM IS, I WOKE UP WAY TOO LATE!! IF THERE ARE ANY INJURED PLAYERS, I'D BE IN SOME DEEP SHIT!!

ACTUALLY, MY NAME IS KOYAMA. I'M A DOCTOR AND I'M SUPPOSED TO BE TAKING CARE OF ANY INJURED PLAYER AT THE BASEBALL STADIUM TODAY!!

INJURIES!?

NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANNA KNOW! HAVE THERE BEEN ANY INJURIES DURING THE GAME!?

WELL!? HOW IS IT!?

.....

E... ERMM, WELL...

WELL!? SPEAK UP!! HOW IS IT!? TELL ME IF THERE ARE ANY INJURED PLAYERS OR NOT!!

THANK GOOD-NESS.

...PHEW... GREAT...

NOBODY!?

N... NOBODY'S BEEN INJURED...

WH... WHAT!? AREN'T YOU IN A HURRY!?

WOULD YOU LET ME LISTEN IN ON THAT RADIO?

WHAT A RELIEF.

DURING THE GAME, AT LEAST.

AH... NO...

WELL, THAT HEADLINE ISN'T EXACTLY THE TRUTH...

AHHH! I REMEMBER, YER THAT YAKUZA COACH THAT THE NEWSPAPER WAS TALKING ABOUT!!

!

HMM? HOLD ON, I SWEAR I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE...

KIRIN

HIYAMA IS KEEPING CLOSE.

FOUL BALL!

IT'S NOW A FULL COUNT, THREE BALLS AND TWO STRIKES...

BUT I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO MAKE MY HITS GO FORWARD...

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M DOING IT ON PURPOSE,

CONTINUE LIKE THAT, DON'T GIVE UP!!

ALRIGHT! KEEP IT UP, HIYAMA!

HIYAMA!

HIYAMA!

IT'S FINE... WE'VE PUT A LOT OF BANDAGES ON RIBS...

SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU, MIKOSHIBA-KUN.

I'M PRETTY FAMILIAR WITH THESE TYPE OF FIRST-AID PROCEDURES...

OKAY, THAT'S FINE...

NOW WRAP THE BANDAGE WHILE PATTING IT DOWN...

THEY'LL JUST TELL ME TO SUB OUT AND TO REST... AND THEN IT'LL BE OVER.

I CAN'T.

SERI-OUSLY.

BUT I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD GO TO THE INFIRMARY AND SEE THE DOCTOR.

KEI-CHAN...

.....

I ALREADY FEEL MUCH BETTER THAN I DID YESTERDAY...

I SPENT THE WHOLE NIGHT COOLING THEM.

IT'S NOT!

BUT IF YOU HAVE A FRACTURED RIB...

...I KNOW MY BODY BEST...

IF...

ANOTHER FOUL BALL.

THERE WON'T BE A NEXT TIME FOR US... THIS'LL BE IT.

IF WE LOSE...

OWW!!

ANIYA!

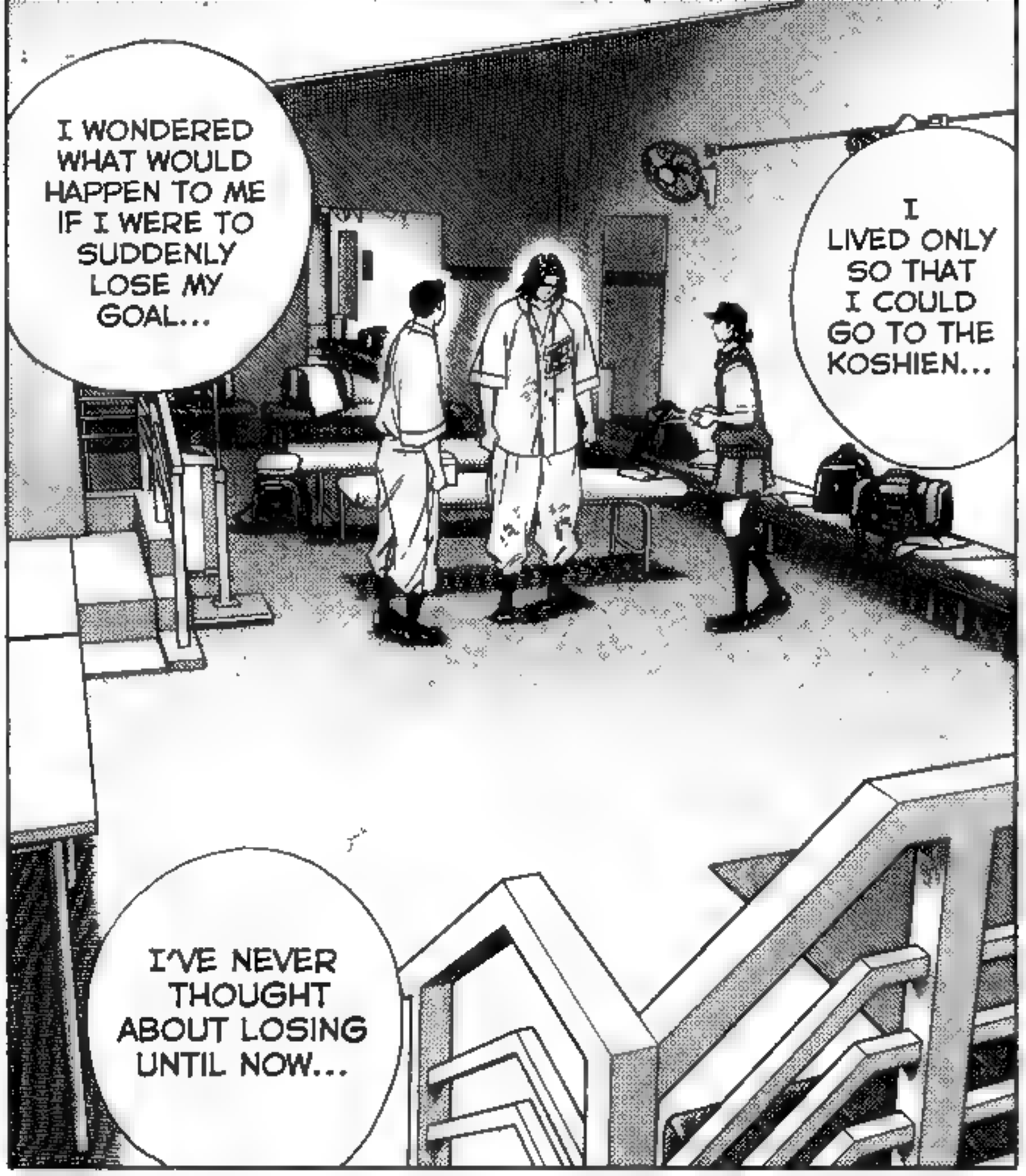
.....

FUCK!!

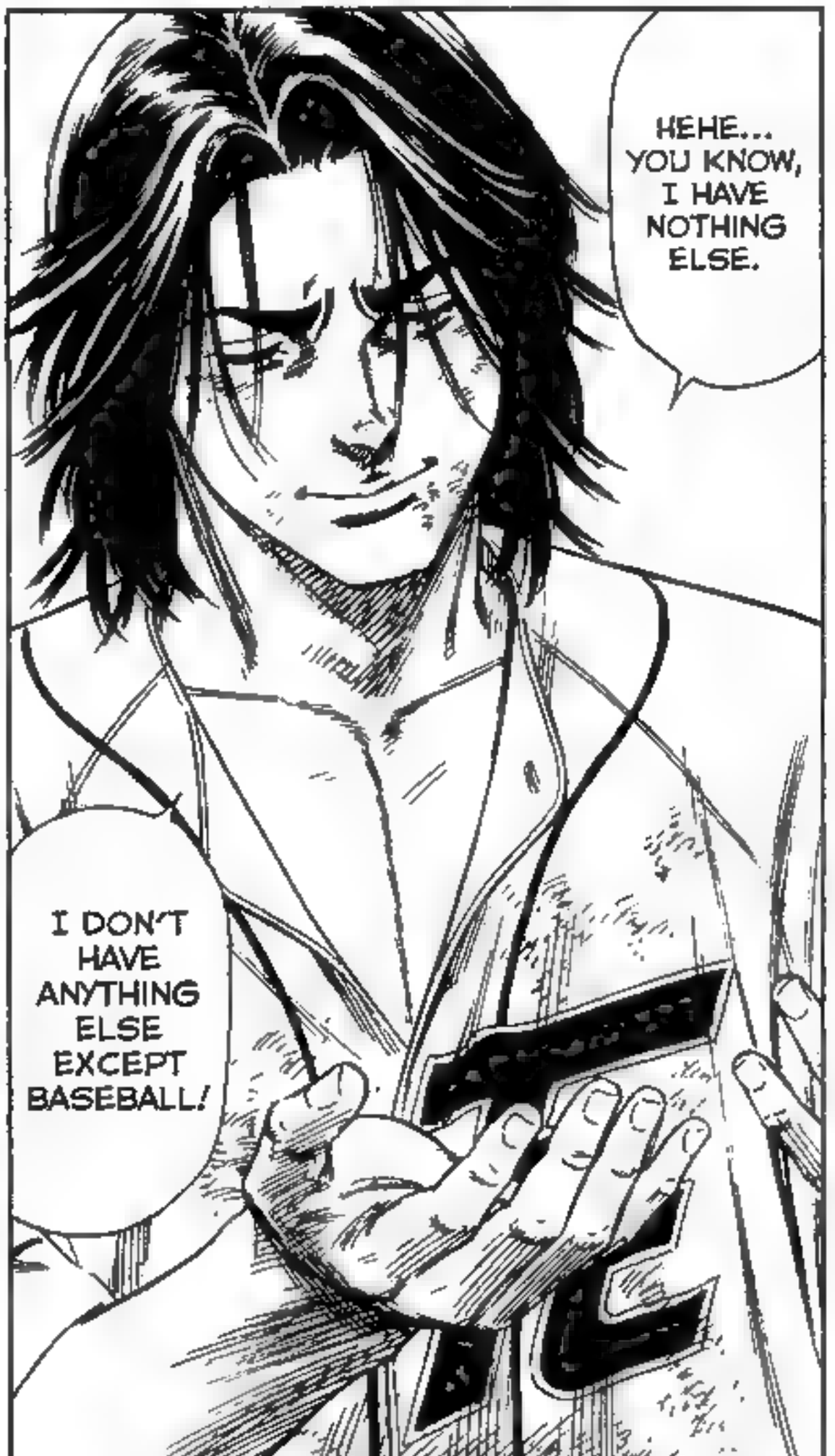
.....

1

.....


I WONDERED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO ME IF I WERE TO SUDDENLY LOSE MY GOAL...
I LIVED ONLY SO THAT I COULD GO TO THE KOSHIEN...
I'VE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT LOSING UNTIL NOW...

.....
ANIYA ...


HEHE... YOU KNOW, I HAVE NOTHING ELSE.
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE EXCEPT BASEBALL!

IF WE LOSE AFTER FIGHTING WITH ALL OF OUR STRENGTH AND GOING ALL OUT, I'D BE OKAY WITH IT...
BUT I ABSOLUTELY DON'T WANT TO LET EVERYONE DOWN UNDER THE EXCUSE THAT I'M INJURED...

I'LL...

I'LL SUB MYSELF OUT OF THE GAME.

IF THE TIME COMES WHEN I THINK I'M USELESS...

THE ONE THING I DON'T WANT TO BE IS THE ONE THAT DRAGS THIS TEAM DOWN.

BUT IF I BECOME A NUISANCE TO THE TEAM, DON'T WAIT TO TELL ME...

.....

SO IF IT COMES FROM YOU, I'LL UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT IT.

MIKOSHIBA.

I KNOW THAT YOU'RE ALSO SOMEONE WHO'S DEDICATED HIS WHOLE LIFE TO PLAYING BASEBALL SO THAT YOU COULD GO TO THE KOSHIEN...

ANIYA...

AH, HIYAMA WAS FINALLY ABLE TO HIT A BALL IN PLAY!

FUCK !!!!!!

A ROUTINE GROUNDER TOWARDS SECOND BASE, THOUGH.

I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT BASEBALL, YA KNOW.

.....

A GROUNDER TO SECOND,

AND HE GETS THROWN OUT AT FIRST. NIKOGAKU HAS ONE OUT.

THAT'S SECOND BASE, RIGHT?

?

BECAUSE I WANT THOSE PLAYERS TO BE PLAYING AT THEIR BEST!

WHAT INTERESTS ME IS THE HEALTH OF THEM PLAYERS!

YOU DID IT FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR PLAYERS.

THAT NEWSPAPER ARTICLE PAINTED YOU AS SOME EVIL MASTERMIND, BUT I KNOW BETTER.

IT'S A SHAME YER NOT ON THAT BENCH.

YA KINDA DESERVED IT FOR BEING RASH, THOUGH...

UH HUH...

I CAN TELL.

THOSE ARE THE KINDA EYES YOU'VE GOT.

.....

FIRST BASEMAN, ANIYA-KUN.

NINTH BATTER, FIRST BASEMAN, ANIYA-KUN.

WEARING NUMBER 1.

WHOA!!

CAN YOU HEAR THE CROWD ROAR NOW?

.....

ANIYAAA!! WE'RE COUNTIN' ON YOU!!

ANIYAAA!

ANIYA'S GOING TO BAT AFTER ALL.

INJURY .?

AH...

I BET PEOPLE ARE WONDERING ABOUT HIS INJURY.

HE SEEMS TO BE GINGERLY WALKING TOWARDS TO BATTER'S BOX.

ALRIGHT! GOOD LUCK, ANIYA!

WHAT INCREDIBLE CHEERING.

WAAA WAAA!

I HAVE A DUTY TO MAKE SURE THE PLAYERS ARE FIT TO PLAY!

HEEEEY! LET GO!

NO EXCUSES!

HOLD ON!!

INJURY, YOU SAAAAY!?

PLEASE WAIT, KOYAMA-SENSEI!

WE CAN'T HAVE THAT!

I THOUGHT YOU CARED ABOUT THE PLAYERS!?

WHAT IF THE PLAYER'S CONDITION IS SERIOUS!?

HE MIGHT NEVER BE ABLE TO PLAY BASEBALL AGAIN!

PLEASE UNDER-STAND!

THAT'S EXACTLY WHY! IT'S FOR THE SAKE OF THE PLAYERS!!

PLAY!

THIS IS THE FIRST SHOWDOWN BETWEEN ENATSU AND ANIYA.

ANIYAAA!

ANIYA!

.....

STRIIIKE!

Vol.220 Mismatch

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ANIYA?

HE DROPPED TO HIS KNEES AFTER SWINGING HARD ON THE FIRST PITCH.

THIS DEFINITELY CONFIRMS THE RUMORS OF HIS INJURY.

ANIYA...

CHATTER

ANIYA-KUN...

ANIYA!

.....

ANIYA IS HOLDING ON TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF HIS BODY WITH HIS HAND... HE SEEMS TO BE IN PAIN...

AND HE STILL HASN'T GOTTEN UP.

IS HE...

.....

P... PLEASE WAIT, KOYAMA-SENSEI...

UNHAND ME! LET GO OF ME!!

THERE, YOU SEE WHAT YOU'VE DONE!? I HAVE TO TREAT HIM!!

.....

ANIYA!

H-HEY... ARE YOU OKAY?

.....

.....

HEY...

.....

PSYYYYCH!

OH, AND HE JUST GETS UP!!

WEIRD, HE JUST GOT UP LIKE IT WAS NOTHING...

.....

NO PROBLEM, RIGHT?

HE LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH HIM.

THERE, YOU SEE?

.....

TOSHIBA

KIRIN

ENEOS

PLAY!!

AND THE GAME CONTINUES.

HE'S ACTING LIKE IT'S NOTHING, BUT THE PAIN IS PROBABLY UNBEARABLE.

ズキン

ズキン

ズキン

ズキン

I'M BEGINNING TO THINK THAT WE'LL HAVE TO SUB HIM OUT EARLIER THAN EXPECTED...

IT'S DEAD DOWN THE MIDDLE ...

AH... SHIT!

STRIIIKE!

YO, DON'T YOU THINK EVEN HAMANAKA COULD HAVE HIT THAT?

.....

ANIVA JUST WATCHED A BALL DEAD DOWN THE MIDDLE FLY BY!

ANIVA DIDN'T EVEN TRY SWINGING ON A THROW LIKE THAT.

IT'S NOW A 0-2 COUNT.

.....

.....

I'M NOT ASKING YOU THIS AS A DOCTOR...

BUT AS A MAN!

.....

THAT YOUNG MAN IS INJURED,

IS HE NOT?

ARE THEY BROKEN?

THE ANNOUNCER WAS TALKING ABOUT HOW THAT YOUNG MAN WAS HOLDING ON TO H S RIBS WITH HIS HAND...

UH... NO... I... UHH...

HAVE YOU GIVEN HIM PAINKILLERS?

Y-YES, HE IS.

PLEASE GIVE HIM PAIN-KILLERS, SENSEI!

THAT'S IT!!

YOU DIDN'T EVEN HAVE HIM CONSULT A DOCTOR!?

THAT'S RIGHT, PAIN-KILLERS!

UNBE-LIEVABLE... WHAT KIND OF COACH ARE YOU!?

P-PAIN-KILLERS ...!?

!

ANIVA WAS STRUCK OUT IN THREE STRAIGHT PITCHES!

STRIIIKE! BATTER OUT!

WHILE IT'S TRUE THAT AS LONG AS IT'S NOT A RISK TO THEIR LIFE,

THREE PITCHES, THREE STRIKES!

TWO OUTS!

IF THE PLAYER IS INJURED, I WILL NOT LET HIM PLAY, EVEN IF HE WANTS TO! PAINKILLERS ARE OFF THE TABLE TOO!

BUT WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT TO ME IS THE FUTURE OF THAT PLAYER!

THERE ARE TIMES WHERE THEY'LL USE PAINKILLERS IF THE PLAYER REALLY WANTS TO CONTINUE

AND LET THEM PLAY EVEN IF IT SACRIFICES THEIR CAREERS...

BUT THEY WON'T NOTICE IF THEY MAKE THEIR CONDITION WORSE BY STRAINING THEMSELVES.

IT'S TRUE THAT WHEN UNDER THE EFFECTS, IT LESSENS THE PAIN AND THEY MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO CONTINUE PLAYING WHILE BEARING IT.

PAIN-KILLERS ARE NO WAY TO TREAT AN INJURY.

BUT...

AND BY THEN, IT'S TOO LATE TO RECOVER FROM.

SOONER OR LATER, THE EFFECT WILL WEAR OFF... AND THEN THEY'LL BE BOMBARDED WITH PAIN, THAT'S WHEN THEY'LL REALIZE THAT THEY'VE MADE THEIR INJURY EVEN WORSE!

.....

SHINJO POPS IT UP TO LEFT FIELD.

THE LEFT FIELDER IS IN POSITION AND SIGNALS THAT HE'S GOT IT...

AND HE CATCHES IT FOR THE THIRD OUT!

THE BOTTOM OF THE THIRD ENDS WITH THE SCORE TIED AT 1-1!

YOU CAN PLAY BASEBALL ANYTIME.

IF YOU'RE REALLY THINKING ABOUT YOUR PLAYERS THEN YOU CAN'T LET THEM OVER DO IT.

WHAT'S IT MATTER IF THAT'S THE REASON WHY YOU LOSE?

FOR MY PLAYERS, IT'S NOW OR NEVER!

NO, THEY CAN'T!

IT'S ALL OVER IF THEY LOSE!

THEY DON'T HAVE A CHOICE! THEY HAVE TO WIN EVERY SINGLE GAME NO MATTER WHAT, SO THEY HAVE TO PLAY THEIR BEST!

IT'S THEIR DESTINY THAT'S IN PLAY!!

I'M NOT EXAG-GERATING!

YOU SEEM TO BE IN A PARTICULAR SITUATION...

.....

三黒川

テレビ朝日 朝日新聞

TIME 0:35 S 0 B 0 I 2 0

一 二 三 四 五 六 七 八 九 十
1 0 0
0 0 1

K

A HIT TOWARDS LEFT FIELD AND IT GOES THROUGH THE SHORTSTOP AND THIRD BASEMAN!

YEAH!

THIS INNING'S FIRST BATTER, ENATSU, IS NOW ON BASE.

野球

YOU'RE LOOKING EXHAUSTED AS FUCK, MAN.

EH?

SO JUST GO TAKE A NAP AND COME BACK NEXT YEAR.

WE'RE NOT GOING TO HOLD BACK TO BEAT YA. SORRY.

I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE INJURED OR NOT FEELING WELL,

NEXT YEAR...

SHIT...

HE KNOWS ANIYA CAN'T DO ANYTHING ONCE HE CATCHES THE BALL...

ENATSU'S DISTANCED HIMSELF FROM THE FIRST BASE, HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO TRY STEALING SECOND BASE.

!

11

AND THE RUNNER TAKES OFF!

WE CAN'T AFFORD IT!!

I WON'T LET YOU!

STRIIIIKE!

WHOA!

SAAAFE!

THE CATCHER THREW THE BALL OFF-TARGET!

HEH.

.....

MIKOSHIBA RUSHED HIS THROW TO SECOND! MIKOSHIBA IS AN EXCELLENT DEFENSIVE PLAYER, BUT HE'S NOT THE MOST EXPERIENCED CATCHER!

YEAH!! BRING IT ON!!

ENATSU'S OFF RUNNING AGAIN!

.....

HE'S TRYING TO STEAL THIRD!

THEY THREW IT OUTSIDE ON PURPOSE!

TOSHIBA

BALL!!

BUT THIS TIME, MIKOSHIBA THROWS A FASTBALL STRAIGHT TO THIRD!

THERE!!

ENATSU'S GOING TO GET CAUGHT...!

HAHAHA!! YOU'RE LATE, YA BASTARD!!

AHHH! HIRATSUKA DIDN'T TAG HIM!!

HE FORGOT TO TAG THE PLAYER IN A TAG PLAY!

HMM...

SAAAFE!

UGH...

.....

WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING!?

HIRATSUKA MIGHT NOT KNOW ALL OF THE RULES IN BASEBALL BECAUSE AFTER ALL, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME HE'S BEEN PART OF THE STARTING LINE UP.

NO, WAIT! THERE'S CONFUSION BETWEEN THE SHORTSTOP AND LEFT FIELDER OVER WHO'D CATCH IT!

SHIBATA POPS ONE UP TO LEFT FIELD!

HOWEVER, IT'S LOOKING A LITTLE SHALLOW!

AND THERE IT IS, THE RUNNER COMES HOME.

NIKOGAKU'S DEFENSIVE PLAY HAS BEEN POROUS...

THE PLAYERS ALL SEEM DISORGANIZED!

KOYAMA-SENSEI!!

EVEN IF THE TEAM IS BANNED, THEY STILL HAVE THE REST OF THEIR LIVES TO PLAY BASE—

BUT I STILL WON'T INJECT PAINKILLERS TO THE PLAYERS.

I SEE.

KIRIN

YOU'RE WRONG! PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!

!

SO THAT'S THE REASON YOUR TEAM CAN'T LOSE.

I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU USED THE WORD "DESTINY" NOW.

IF THEY LOSE HERE, IT WOULD BE LIKE...

IT WOULD LIKE BEING SENTENCED TO THE DEATH PENALTY!

Vol.221

Time To Live!

NO, I SAID I'D LEAVE IT TO YOU, FUCKER!

YOU SAID "LEAVE IT TO ME", ASSHOLE!

AND THAT HIT WAS OBVIOUSLY HEADED TO LEFT FIELD!

!

YO!

WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING!?

TOYOTA

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION WE'RE IN?

THIS AIN'T THE TIME TO BE FIGHTING!

NO...

M... MY BAD.

IT WAS MY FAULT...

.....

I CAN'T WATCH THIS ANY-MORE!

PLEASE LET ME PLAY!

NIKOGAKU ONLY HAS TWELVE CLUB MEMBERS...

SHIT...

WITH INJURIES PILLING UP, THEY HAVE BEEN FORCED TO SWITCH PLAYERS' POSITIONS... WITH SO MANY CHANGES, IT'S BEGUN TO BACKFIRE.

.....

NO, NOT YET, SEKIKAWA...

YOU'LL BE OUR REPLACEMENT RUNNER WHEN WE'LL BE IN AN IMPORTANT SCORING OPPORTUNITY.

I ALSO BELIEVE THAT WITH AKABOSHI PITCHING, THIS TEAM HAS A GOOD CHANCE...

NO, WE WEREN'T WRONG... THIS IS THE LINEUP THAT KAWATO-KUN THOUGHT WOULD GIVE US THE BEST CHANCE TO WIN.

WERE WE WRONG TO HAVE CHANGED TOO MANY OF THE POSITIONS?

AND AKABOSHI'S PITCHING HASN'T BEEN BAD AT ALL SO FAR.

A FORK BALL!

STRIIIKE! BATTER OOOOUT!

MOTOKI STRUCK OUT IN THREE STRAIGHT PITCHES!

WHOA, A FORK BALL!

THAT GUY AIN'T TOO SHABBY!

HIS FORK DOESN'T SINK MUCH EITHER.

HAHAHA...

IT'S EASY TO TELL WITH THE MOTION OF HIS ARM.

HEH... WHAT A SHITTY FORK BALL.

IF ONLY OUR DEFENSE WASN'T SO CHAOTIC...

I WISH I COULD BE A LITTLE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH HIS PITCHING...

I KNOW THAT AKABOSHI'S FORK BALL ISN'T GREAT TO STRIKE BATTERS OUT...

HE'S THE TYPE OF PITCHER THAT MAKES BATTERS GROUND OR POP OUT.

THE SECOND BASEMAN ANTICIPATED THE BALL GOING THE OTHER WAY!

THE BALL GOES THROUGH FIRST AND SECOND!

RUNNERS ON FIRST AND THIRD WITH ONLY ONE OUT!

BUT THAT ISN'T POSSIBLE RIGHT NOW...

ACTUALLY, IF ANIYA WAS ABLE TO PITCH, WE WOULD BE ABLE TO PUT EVERY-BODY IN THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS ON DEFENSE...

.....

THERE'S NO POINT IN THAT!

AHHH... IF ONLY ANIYA-SAN COULD PITCH...

AND NOW KONO IS UP AT THE PLATE.

THIS IS TOO DIFFICULT FOR NIKO-GAKU!!

OH NO, NOT NOW!!

FOURTH BATTER, CATCHER, KONO-KUN.

CATCHER, KONO-KUN.

日黒川

IN HIS FIRST AT BAT, KONO HIT AN INCREDIBLY LONG SOLO HOMERUN.

明治神宮球場

HE'S CALMLY WALKING INTO THE BATTER'S BOX.

LOSING IS THE SAME AS DEATH!?

I KNOW THAT THEY CAN PLAY BASEBALL ELSEWHERE,

BUT THEIR FOCUS ISN'T ONLY ON PLAYING BASEBALL.

.....

LIKE I JUST EXPLAINED, IF MY TEAM LOSES THIS GAME, THE CLUB WILL BE ABOLISHED.

YES...

THEY WANT TO GO TO THE KOSHIEN!

WORKING TOGETHER, SWEATING TOGETHER, SUFFERING TOGETHER, CELEBRATING TOGETHER... ALL TOWARDS A COMMON GOAL.

THIS IS PROBABLY THE FIRST TASTE OF A DREAM THEY'VE HAD SINCE THEY WERE BORN.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THEY'VE EVER REALLY FELT ALIVE!

NOT BEING ABLE TO AIM FOR THE KOSHIEN WOULD BE A DEATH SENTENCE TO THEM!

AND LOSING...

A FEW OF THEM MIGHT EVEN THINK THAT THE KOSHIEN IS THEIR ULTIMATE GOAL IN LIFE...

IN FACT, ALMOST ALL OF THEM THINK THAT!

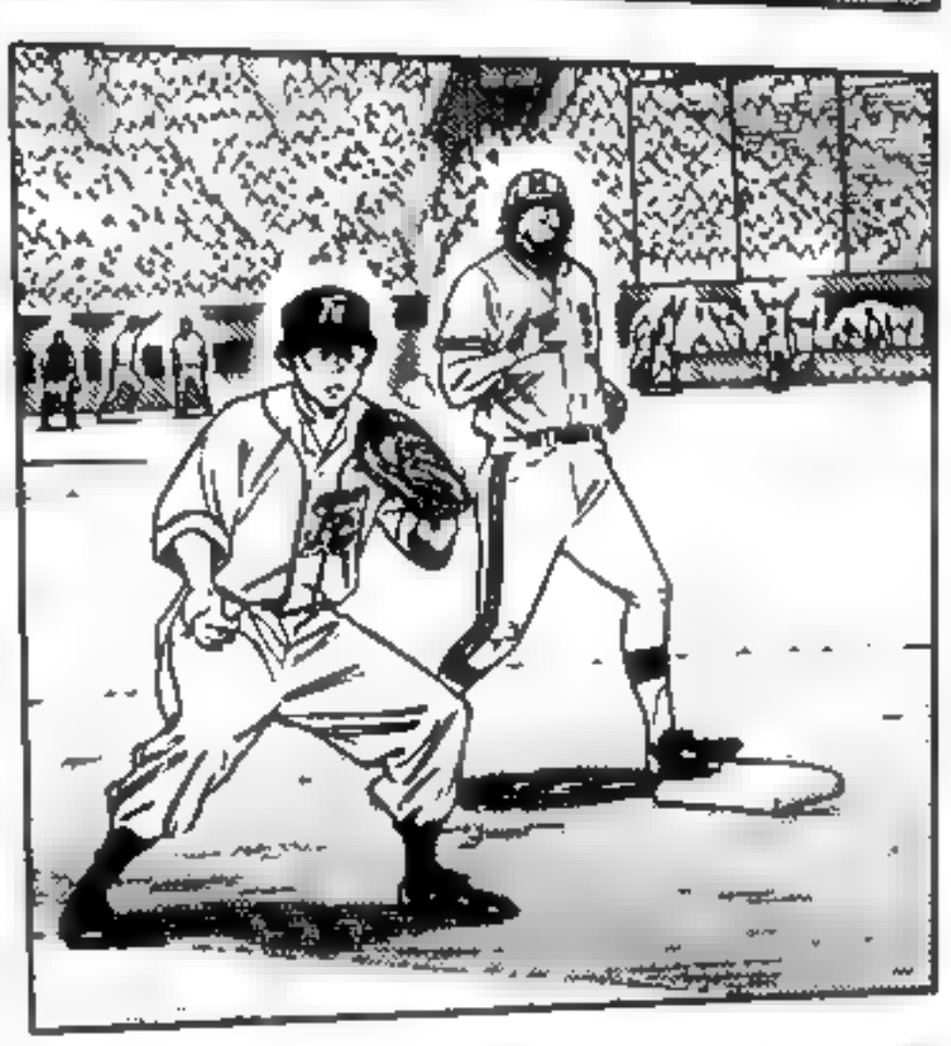
TOKYO

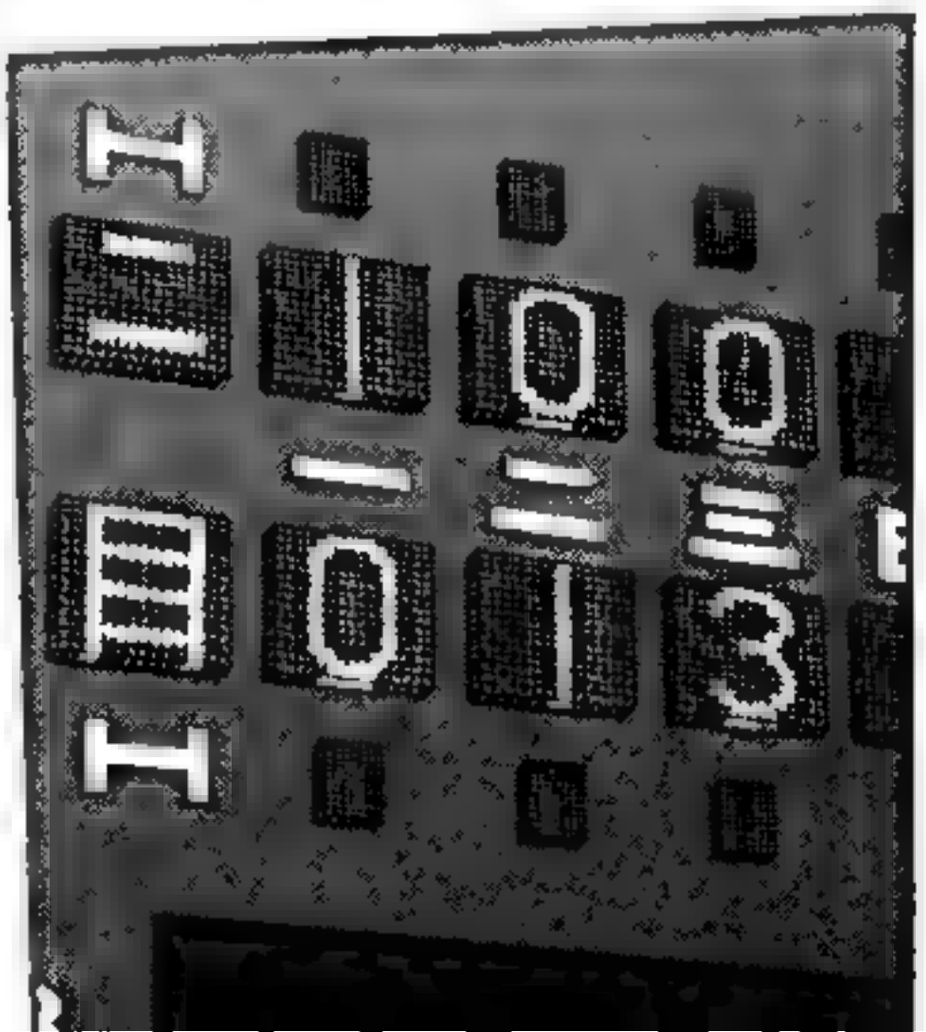
HE CONNECTED!!

A STRONG LINE DRIVE!

THE BALL DROPPED DEEP BETWEEN THE CENTER AND RIGHT FIELDER!!

AS PROMISING AND BEAUTIFUL THEIR LIVES WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME,
IT DOESN'T MATTER TO THEM RIGHT NOW.





THEIR TIME TO LIVE IS NOW!

ALL I WANT IS FOR ANIYA AND MY TEAM TO PLAY WITH ALL THEIR STRENGTH AND MIGHT.

I KNOW THAT GIVING ANIYA PAINKILLERS WON'T GUARANTEE US VICTORY...

BUT HE HAS THE POWER TO BRING THE TEAM TOGETHER.

SO I BEG OF YOU, SENSEI!

EVEN IF IT THREATENS HIS BASEBALL CAREER, ANIYA NEEDS TO BE CONVINCED HE WENT ALL OUT TO BE PROUD OF HIMSELF...

PLEASE GIVE ANIYA PAINKILLERS!

PLEASE, HELP THEM...

SO THAT THEY CAN LIVE!

明治神

全国高校野球選

!

YOU ARE A FAILURE OF A COACH.

MATSUI IS JUMPING AROUND AFTER GETTING THE BALL ON HIS BACKSIDE!

THAT'S GOTTA SMART!

THE BATTER JUST GOT HIT BY THE PITCH.

OHHHH...

.....

WEREN'T YOU LISTENING? THE BATTER GOT HIT BY THE BALL!

YOU'RE NOT GONNA TELL ME TO IGNORE THE OPPOSING TEAM'S INJURIES TOO, ARE YOU?

KO... KOYAMA-SENSEI!

THERE'S NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN A PATIENT'S LIFE!

YOU KNOW, FOR A DOCTOR...

KOYAMA-SENSEI!

P... PLEASE WAIT! A-ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE ANIYA OUT OF THE GAME!?

SENSEI!!

AND THEY CONVERT THE DOUBLE PLAY.

A SHORT GROUNDER TO THE SHORTSTOP,

BUT MEGUROGAWA WAS able TO SCORE THREE POINTS IN THIS INNING THANKS TO A DEFENSIVE MISTAKE BY NIKOGAKU AND A HIT BY KONO!

OHHH, YOU'RE LATE, SENSEI!

JEEZ, WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

THE SCORE IS 4-1 MEGUROGAWA HEADED INTO THE TOP OF THE FOURTH.

IF HE'S JUMPING AROUND EVERYWHERE, THEN HE SHOULD BE FINE!

ONE OF THE BATTERS GOT THE BALL RIGHT IN THE ASS AND STARTED JUMPING AROUND... IT WAS SO FUNNY!

OH YEAH, YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHAT JUST HAPPENED!

SENSEI?

HUH?

MORE IMPORTANTLY, PLEASE PREPARE ALL THAT'S NEEDED FOR A NERVE BLOCK.

THEY MUSN'T DIE!

I WILL NEVER GO AGAINST MY PRINCIPLES!

THERE'S NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT TO A DOCTOR THAN HIS PATIENT'S LIFE!

ARE YOU ANIYA-KUN?

EH?

I'M THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO HELP YOU LIVE!

COME WITH ME TO THE INFIRMARY!

COME ON, HURRY!

WHOA, WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, OLD MAN?

YO!

Vol.222 Anesthesia

.....

WH... ARE YOU PULLING ANIYA FROM THE GAME!?

BUT I CAN'T JUST LEAVE INJURIES UNTREATED.

DON'T WORRY, THAT ISN'T MY INTENTION.

HE EVEN GOT ON HIS KNEES, BEGGING ME TO GIVE THEM PAIN KILLERS SO THAT THEY COULD LIVE THE PRESENT.

BECAUSE THERE WAS A MAN WHO TOLD ME THAT THERE WERE PLAYERS THAT WERE LIVING THE PRESENT AND WERE PUTTING THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE.

THEN WHY DID YOU BOTHER COMING ALL THE WAY TO OUR BENCH, DOC?

!

AH, CRAP. WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU GUYS THAT.

WASN'T HE SUPPOSED TO BE AT SCHOOL TODAY...!?

D... DID YOU SEE KAWATO!?

HE'S HERE!?

IT'S KAWATO!

AND NEARBY, TOO...

SENSEI... IS HERE...

AS THAT MAN.

YOU HAVE THE SAME EYES

HEY, QUIT FUCKING AROUND!! YOU DON'T KNOW SHIT, OLD MAN!

IF YOU'RE MISSING PLAYERS, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE DUE WITH THE REMAINING PLAYERS AVAILABLE.

I TOLD HIM THAT A COACH'S PRIORITY SHOULD ALWAYS BE HIS PLAYERS' WELL-BEING.

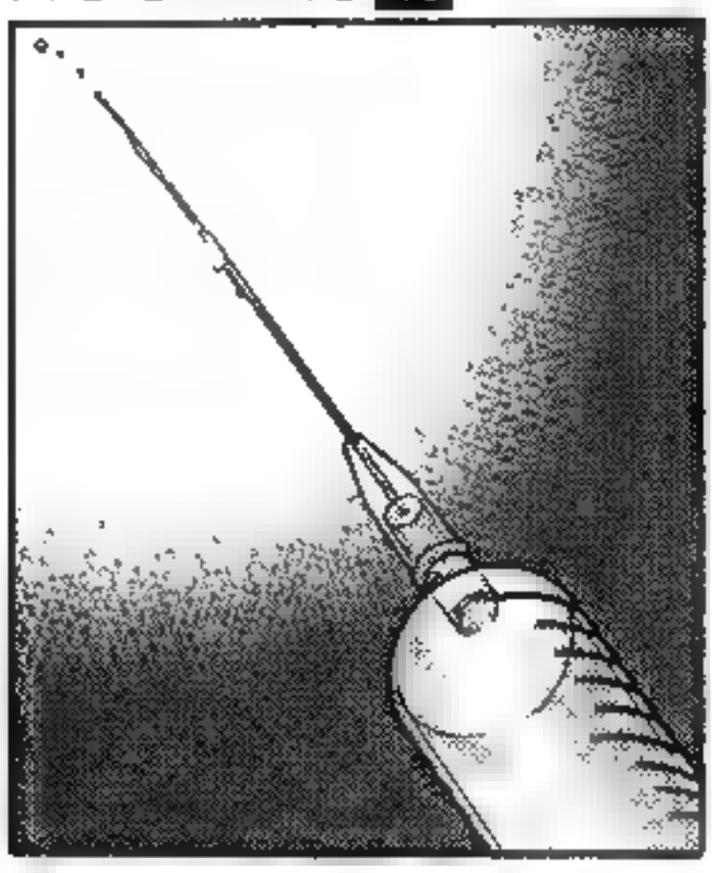
HMM...

HE UNDERSTANDS HIS PLAYERS...

THAT MAN IS THE SAME AS ALL OF YOU.

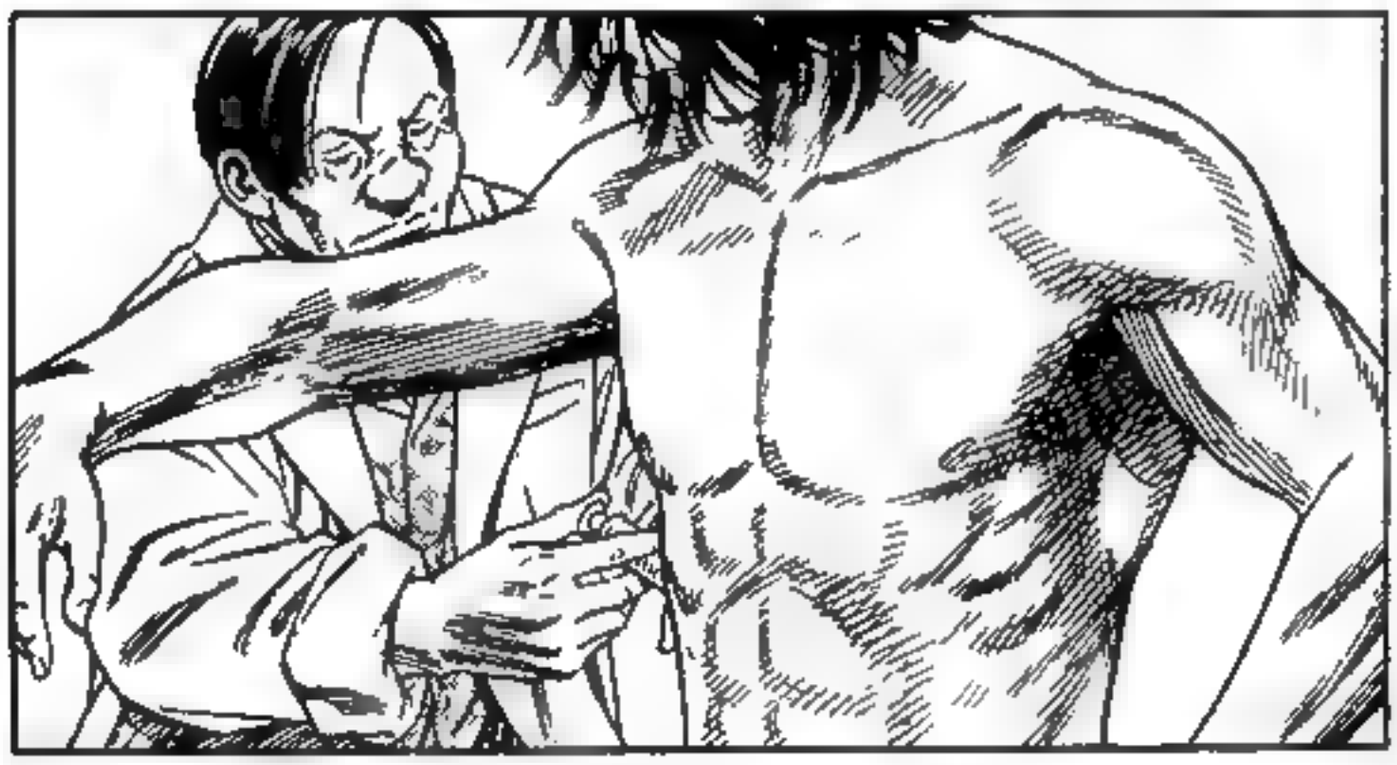
NO, RATHER...

OF COURSE HE IS!!



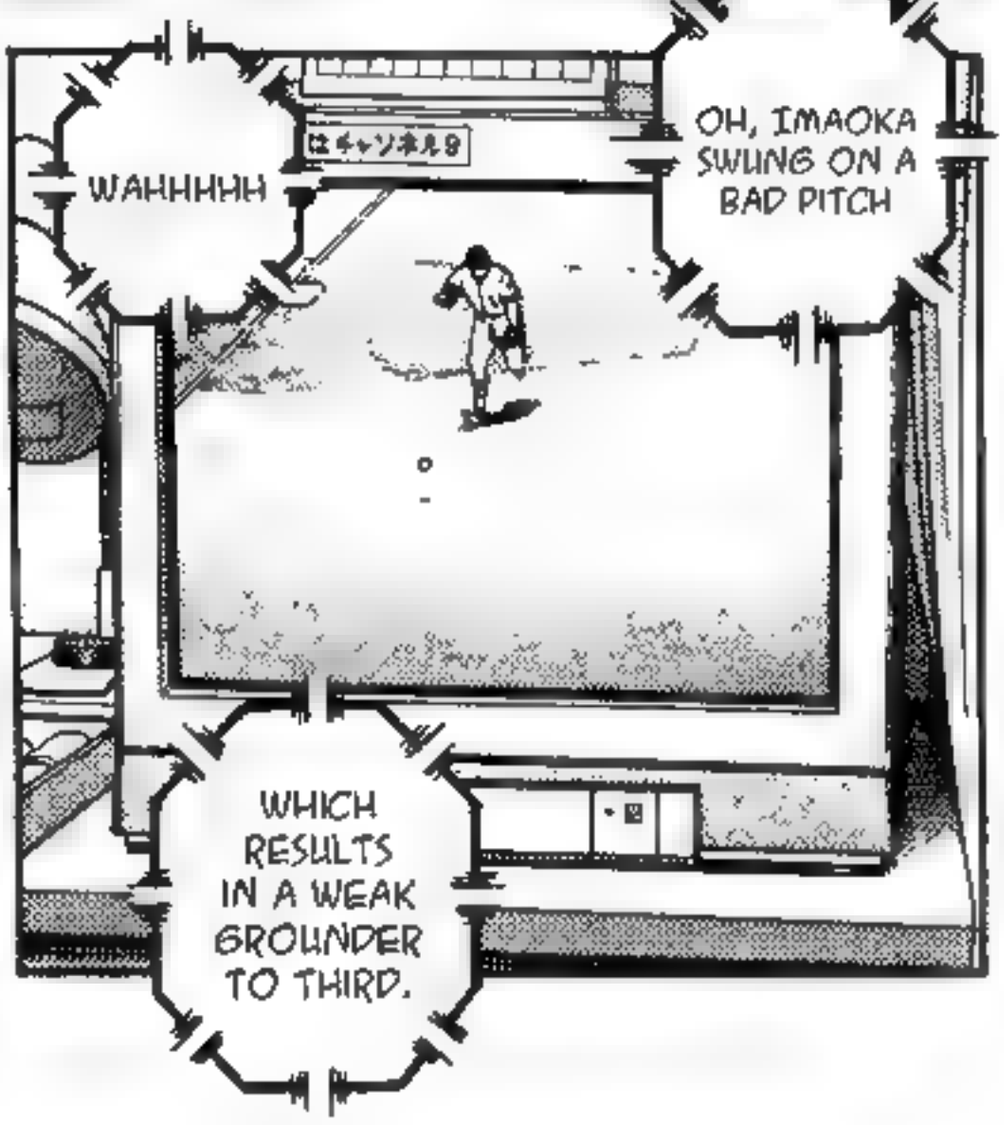
救急箱
御手洗
*Restrooms
*Infirmary

THE TOP OF THE FOURTH STARTS WITH NIKOGAKU'S OFFENSE.
SECOND BATTER, SECOND BASEMAN, IMAOKA-KUN.
IMAOKA!!
WE'RE COUNTIN' ON YOU, IMAOKA!!



IT SHOULD TAKE EFFECT IN TEN MINUTES.
I'M NOT ABLE TO DO AN IN-DEPTH EXAMINATION HERE, BUT FROM THE LOOK OF THINGS, YOU RIBS DON'T SEEM TO BE BROKEN.

OWW...
.....


WAHHHHH
OH, IMAOKA SWUNG ON A BAD PITCH
WHICH RESULTS IN A WEAK GROUNDER TO THIRD.

AS LONG AS YOU DON'T MOVE AROUND.

I THINK THE EFFECT OF THE PAINKILLER WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF THE GAME...

THE PAIN WON'T COMPLETELY DISAPPEAR, BUT IT'LL FEEL MUCH BETTER.

HE... HEHE.

AN ANESTHESIA OVERDOSE CAN BE POISONOUS.

POISON-OUS?

THE MORE YOU MOVE, THE MORE YOUR BLOOD WILL CIRCULATE AND THE FASTER THE EFFECTS WILL WEAR OFF.

GOTCHA. I'LL JUST COME SEE YOU FOR ANOTHER SHOT THEN...

YOU SHOULD NEVER UNDER-ESTIMATE THE EFFECTS OF ANESTHESIA!

IN SOME CASES, YOU STOP BREATHING AND YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE DROPS TO THE POINT OF CARDIAC ARREST.

THE INITIAL SYMPTOMS ARE A PARALYZED TONGUE, AUDITORY OR SIGHT PROBLEMS, ALONG WITH MINOR CONVULSIONS...

AS IT PROGRESSES, YOU WILL START LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS AS YOUR BODY SHUTS DOWN.

TRY TO LIMIT YOUR MOVEMENTS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

KOYAMA-SENSEI RARELY ADMINISTERS PAINKILLERS DURING A GAME SO THAT A PLAYER CAN CONTINUE.

.....

AND YOU HAVE PERMISSION ONLY TO SWING WITH YOUR FULL STRENGTH ONCE DURING THIS GAME.

YOU ALSO HAVE TO AVOID ALL TYPES OF PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH OPPOSING PLAYERS.

AVOID RUNNING AS HARD AS YOU CAN...

!

DO YOU PLAN ON PITCHING TODAY?

IT WAS HIT BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND!

WAAHHHH

I HEARD YOU WERE A PITCHER.

FUCKIN' RIGHT!

KEI-CHAN...

THIRD BASEMAN HIRATSUKA-KUN.

FOURTH BATTER, THIRD BASEMAN HIRATSUKA-KUN.

WAAAAHH

HIRATSUKA STRUCK OUT IN THREE STRAIGHT PITCHES!

UNBELIEVABLE! THAT WAS TOO EASY FOR THE PITCHER!

HMMM...

YEAAAAAAAH!

I'M GONNA SET THIS BITCH ON FIRE!!

NO... TWENTY-FIVE PITCHES.
THIRTY...
AND I'M ONLY AUTHORIZING YOU TO THROW WITH YOUR FULL STRENGTH WHEN IT'S THE DECISIVE PITCH.
AND NOT ONE MORE.

DON'T YOU FORGET THAT!

REMEMBER THAT ANY UNECCESARY MOVEMENT WILL MAKE THE ANESTHETIC WEAR OFF FASTER!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

AFTER THE TOP OF THE FOURTH, THE SCORE REMAINS 4-1.

MEGUROGAWA IS STILL UP BY THREE.

THE FIFTH BATTER YUFUNE IS OUT AFTER HE POPPED OUT TO THE CATCHER.

AFTER STEALING SECOND BASE, AKABOSHI WAS LEFT STRANDED WITHOUT COMING HOME.

BESIDES, IF I'M SEEN THERE, THINGS WILL BECOME TEN TIMES WORST...

SHOULD I GO STOP HIM FROM DOING THAT? NO, I CAN'T...

THAT DOCTOR WANTS TO REMOVE ANIYA FROM THE GAME THE NEXT TIME THEY GO ON DEFENSE...

THE BOTTOM OF THE FOURTH IS ABOUT TO START WITH NIKOGAKU ON DEFENSE.

SO FAR, ALL FIVE HITS FROM OPPONENTS HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF ERRORS BY AKABOSHI'S TEAMMATES.

!

OH, ANIYA'S APPROACHING AKABOSHI!

EVERY-BODY...

ANIYA...

GO ALL OUT, AKABOSHI.

DON'T EVEN WORRY ABOUT GETTING HIT ON.

I CAN TAKE OVER AT ANY TIME.

THERE'S NO USE IN SAVING UP YOUR ENERGY FOR THE REMAINING INNINGS.

I WANT YOU TO THROW LIKE THAT TIME YOU STRUCK ME OUT IN THREE STRAIGHT PITCHES.

I WANT YOU TO PITCH LIKE YOU DID BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

AKABOSHI GOT OVER THAT BAD INNING MARVELOUSLY! HE STRUCK HIM OUT IN THREE STRAIGHT PITCHES!

STRIIIIIKE!! BATTER OOOOUT!

GO, AKA-BOSHIIIII, GO!

SWEEEET! NICE ONE!!

THEY'VE FOUND THEIR VOICES AGAIN...

COME TO ME, BABY! COME TO MEEEE!

HEY, HEEEEEEY! YOU CAN LET THEM HIT SOME, AKABOSHI! JUST TAKE IT EASY!

HE CAN THROW STRESS-FREE, KNOWING THAT ANIYA CAN STEP IN AT ANY TIME!

EVERYBODY IS FEELING HIS PRESENCE NEAR US!

IT'S KAWATO ...!

IT'S DEFINITELY BECAUSE ANIYA'S DOING BETTER... BUT THAT ISN'T ALL.

HE HIT IT!! IT'S FLYING RIGHT ABOVE FIRST BASE!!

.....!

110

ANIYA CAUGHT ITTTTT!!

TOSHIBA

IRIN

ENEOS

WHAT AN INCREDIBLE JUMP!

THAT'S THE ANIYA EVERYBODY KNOWS!

DID HE GET...

A PAIN-KILLER?

BATTER OUT!!

WHAT AN EXCELLENT REACTION PLAY BY ANIYA!!

KOYAMA-SENSEI...

YEAAAAH! WAY TO GO, ANIYA!!

NIKOGAKU IS STARTING TO GET ITS' MOJO BACK!

YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD SOME-TIMES!

THAT IDIOT...

I TOLD HIM NOT TO PLAY WITH ALL OF HIS STRENGTH...

I'M ALRIGHT ...

HE... HEHE HE...

Vol.223 Resolve

ENATSU POPS IT UP TOWARDS THE BENCH NEAR FIRST BASE...

THE CATCHER MIKOSHIBA IS AFTER IT!

C'MON, YOU GOTTA CATCH IT!

GUH...

UGH! I CAN'T...!

THAT FOOL!

WOW, ANIYA LEAPS UP TO CATCH IT!

THE STANDS ARE GOING CRAZY AFTER ANIYA'S PLAYS!

WHOA!!

ANOTHER SUPERB PLAY BY ANIYA!

MEGUROGAWA GOES THREE UP, THREE DOWN TO END THE INNING.

AT THE END OF THE FOURTH, THE SCORE REMAIN 4-1.

A-AWE-SOME...

THIS IS HOW THEY LIVE FOR NOW?

LIVING THE PRESENT DESPITE ALL THEIR SHORTCOMINGS?

HE DIDN'T UNDER-STAND A THING I SAID!

I'M GOING TO PULL HIM OUT OF THE GAME RIGHT AWAY!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, SENSEI?

IT'S TOO DANGER-OUS!

THAT'S NOT IT!!

AH! DO YOU LIKE THIS COMMERCIAL TOO, SENSEI?

PAPA, I WANT A PUPPY...

WAIT UNTIL PAPA GETS HIS BONUS.

DEEP DOWN, I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN...

THE PLAYERS ARE JUST LIKE THE COACH...

PLEASE TURN THE TV OFF?

COULD YOU...

.....

OH. CAN I WATCH SOMETHING ELSE INSTEAD?

IF YOU WANT.

YOU'RE FUCKING LYIN'!

THAT WAS AMAZIN', ANIYA!

YOU WEREN'T REALLY INJURED, WERE YOU!?

ARE YOUR RIBS REALLY ALRIGHT!?

HEEEEEY!! WHO TOLD YOU TO SHOW OFF ON YOUR FUCKIN' OWN!?

GYA HAHA HAHA HA!

PSYYYYCH!

YEAAAAAH!!

MY RIBS PIERCED MY LUNG ...

CRAP...

IT'S JUST THREE RUNS, GUYS! WE CAN CATCH UP IN NO TIME!

KEEP IT GOING!!

KEEP GETTING ON BASE UNTIL IT'S ANIYA'S TURN!

ALRIGHT. OKADA, MIKOSHIBA AND HIYAMA!!

ANIYA...

I'M COUNTING ON YOU.

YEAH.

FOR SURE!
YEAH!

SENSEI...
4
WHERE ARE YOU WATCHING FROM?

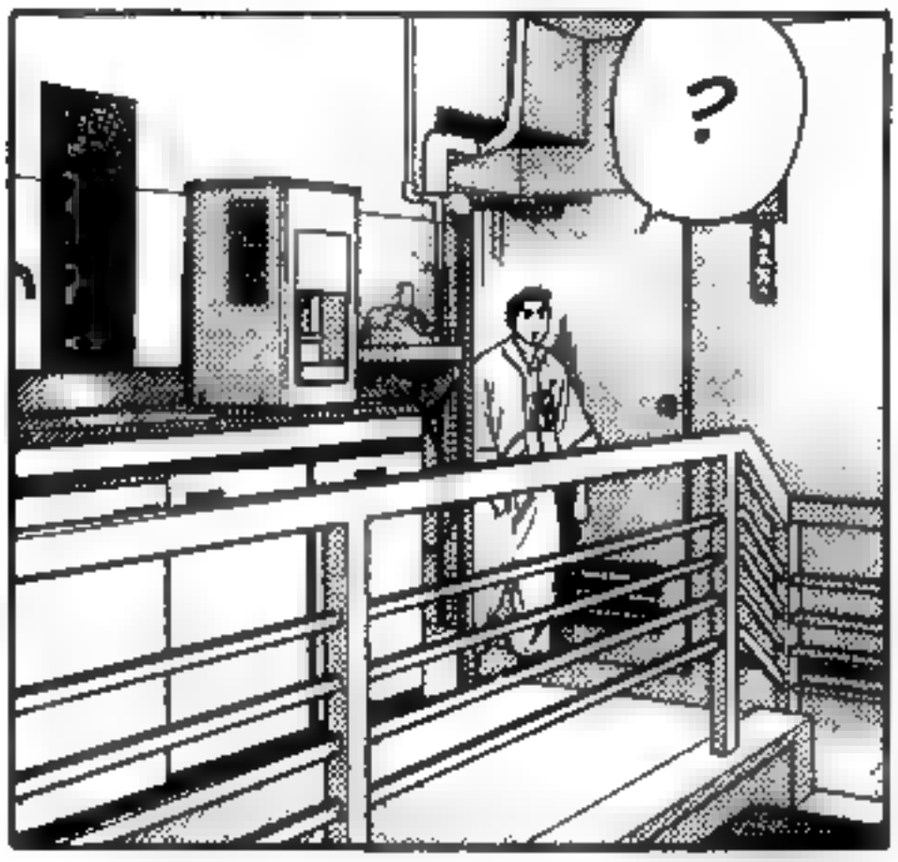
ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE WITH ANIYA!
WE'RE ALRIGHT NOW... BECAUSE ANIYA'S FEELING BETTER.

.....

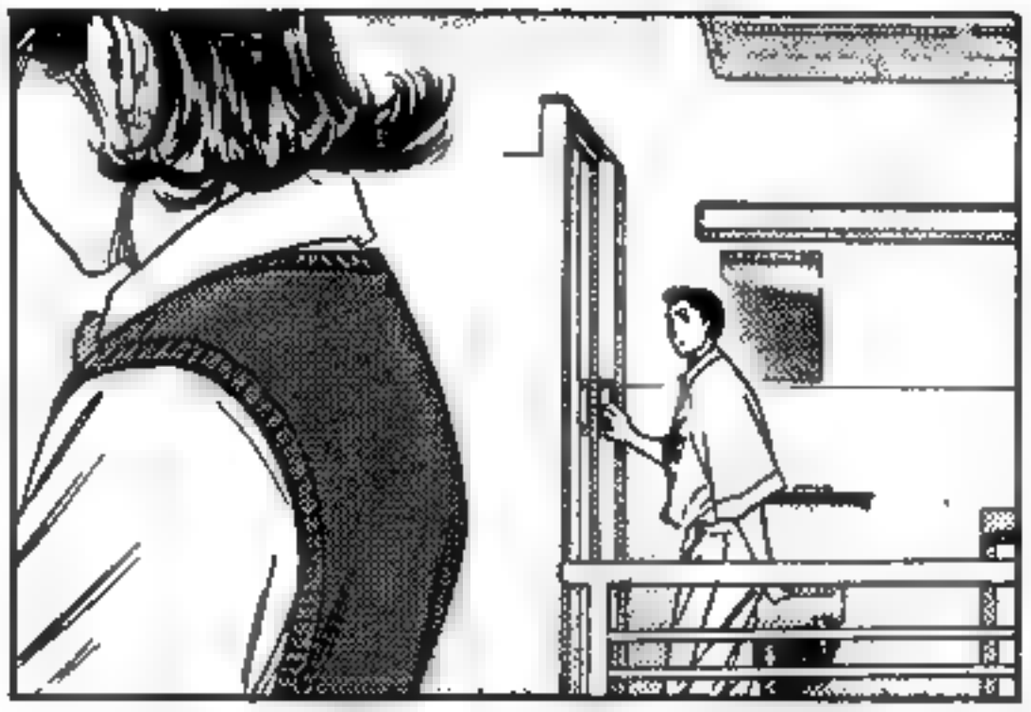
HAMANAKA, CAN YOU TAKE MY SPOT FOR A SECOND?
I NEED TO USE THE REST-ROOM.
WHA?

SIXTH BATTER, RIGHT FIELDER OKADA-KUN.
THE TOP OF THE FIFTH INNING STARTS OFF WITH NIKOGAKU AT BAT.
LET'S GO, OKADA!!
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!!
RIGHT FIELDER OKADA-KUN.
KEEP IT GOING UNTIL ANIYA COMES TO THE PLATE!

AH... HAHA...
YOU NEED TO TAKE A LEAK NOW?


?

DID YOU FORGET WHAT THE DOCTOR SAID!?



!

HE ALSO SAID THAT YOU COULD ONLY SWING WITH FULL STRENGTH ONCE DURING THE GAME.

HE SAID THAT MOVING TOO MUCH WILL SHORTEN THE EFFECT OF THE ANESTHESIA AND MAKE THE INJURY WORST!

ARE YOU GONNA PLAY ALONE AGAIN...?

THAT ISN'T IT!

NO, YOU'RE WRONG.

AGAIN?

DON'T TELL ANYBODY ABOUT THAT, OKAY?

KEI-CHAN!

EVERYBODY'S DOING THEIR BEST...

I WANT TO DRIVE IN RUNS, EVEN IF IT'S JUST A SINGLE ONE...

I WANT TO GET BATTERS OUT, EVEN IF IT'S A SINGLE BATTER, WHILE I CAN STILL MOVE.

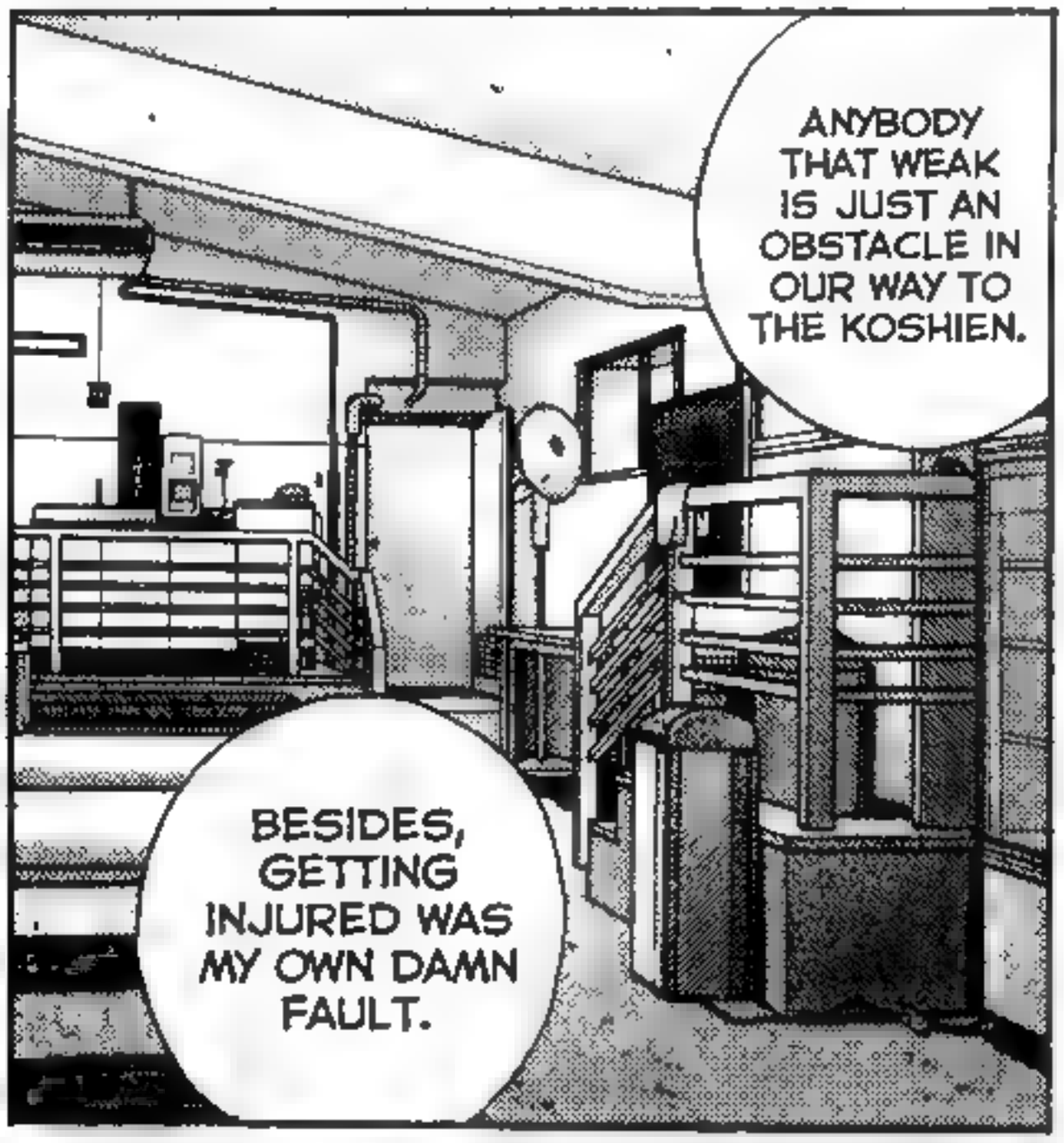
AND AS LONG AS I CAN MOVE...

WHY AM I NOT ALLOWED TO DO WHAT I CAN RIGHT NOW?

I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FORGIVE HIM.

I'D NEVER BE ABLE TO FORGIVE HIM!

IF ANYBODY ELSE WAS INJURED AND WAS HOLDING US BACK LIKE THIS,


ANYBODY THAT WEAK IS JUST AN OBSTACLE IN OUR WAY TO THE KOSHIEN.
BESIDES, GETTING INJURED WAS MY OWN DAMN FAULT.

THAT'S ALL.
.....

DON'T LOOK AT ME.
KEI-CHAN...
SHOO.

MY OWN DAMN FAULT...

NOW SCRAM.

.....

I SAID SCRAM!

LISTEN, DON'T MAKE ME SHOUT AT YOU.

I DON'T WANT TO USE MY ENERGY TO ARGUE WITH YOU.

SO THAT'S WHAT IT IS?

ミ〃ヨロ

ミ〃ヨロ

ミ〃ヨロ

ミ〃ヨロ

WHY DID I HAVE TO GET INJURED!?

FUCK ...

WHY...

UU... UUH...

GOD FUCKING DAMN IT!

THIS IS ANIYA'S RESOLVE...

SO THIS IS...

AND HE HIT THE BALL!

OKADA HIT THE BALL STRAIGHT TO CENTER FIELD!

YOU'RE UP NEXT! IT'S YOUR TURN TO BAT!

M... M-MIKO-SHIBA! ARE YOU DONE YET!?

FUCK YEAH!!

HEY, YOU AREN'T TAKING A SHIT, ARE YA!?

3

MIKOSHIBA!

THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!!

THAT WE'RE ALRIGHT BECAUSE ANIYA'S FEELING BETTER...

I WAS TELLING MYSELF THAT ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE WITH ANIYA,

MAN, AM I WEAK!!

THAT MEANS, ALL I'VE BEEN DOING IS RELYING COMPLETELY ON ANIYA FROM THE START...

IS MY RESOLVE...!?

COMPARED TO ANIYA, WHERE THE HELL

IT'S BECAUSE I'M SO DAMN WEAK!!

AS SOON AS I WAS IN THE BATTER'S CIRCLE, I HAD TO PISS...

I'M THE CAPTAIN, AREN'T I!?

!

LOOK, YOU'RE EMPTY ALREADY!

HEEEEY! HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA BE PISSIN'!?

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE A LEAK BEFORE YOU HAVE TO BAT!

YOU... DID YOU OVERHEAR US?

MIKO-SHIBA!!

MIKO-SHIBA!!

MIKO-SHIBA!!

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, CAPTAIN!!

SEVENTH BATTER, CATCHER MIKOSHIBA-KUN.

CATCHER MIKOSHIBA-KUN.

MIKO-SHIIIBA!!

HIT THE BALL, MIKO-SHIBA!!

YOU CAN HEAR ALL OF THE GIRLS SCREAMING IN THE STANDS NEXT TO FIRST BASE...

TOP OF THE FIFTH AND NIKOGAKU IS UP AT BAT... MIKOSHIBA-KUN, THEIR SEVENTH BATTER, IS CURRENTLY AT BAT WITH FIRST BASE TAKEN UP BY OKADA, WHO HIT A SINGLE UP THE MIDDLE, AND NO OUTS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK!

HE'S THE SMALLEST CAPTAIN OF ALL 267 TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN THIS YEAR'S TOURNAMENT.

Vol.224 Captain

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, MIKO-SHIBA!!

YEAH!!

NIKOGAKU IS DESPERATELY LOOKING TO GET INTO AN ADVANTAGEOUS POSITION FOR ANIVA'S TURN AT BAT.

RIGHT AWAY HE'S GETTING IN POSITION TO MAKE A SACRIFICIAL BUNT.

*About 5'1"

HE STANDS ONLY 1.54 METERS IN HEIGHT."

LOOK AT HOW BIG A REGULAR BAT LOOKS NEXT TO HIM COMPARED TO OTHER PLAYERS!

PHEW...

1

STRIIIKE!

AND HE WATCHES THE FIRST PITCH GO BY HIM.

?

I JUST NOTICED SOMETHING WHEN THE SIXTH BATTER, OKADA, GOT ON BASES WITH NO OUTS AND THE SEVENTH BATTER WAS MIKOSHIBA.

THE SIXTH BATTER?

STARTING WITH THE SIXTH BATTER...

			AV
	1	HIKOGAKU	
	8	SHINJO	
	4	IMAOKA	
	11	AKABOSHI	
	5	HIRATSUKA	
	7	YUFUNE	
	9	OKADA	
	12	MIKOSHIBA	
	6	HIYAMA	
	3	ANIYA	

UDGE
R 4
B
E

OKADA COULD BE CONSIDERED THE FIRST BATTER...

KAWATO HAD A CERTAIN INTENTION WHEN HE MADE THIS BATTING ORDER.

.....

AND SHINJO WOULD BE THE FIFTH BATTER.

ANIYA WOULD BE THE FOURTH BATTER,

NOW WITH OKADA ON FIRST BASE, IF THE "SECOND" AND "THIRD" BATTERS, MIKOSHIBA AND HIYAMA, WERE ABLE TO GET ON BASE FOR THE "FOURTH" BATTER, ANIYA...

WHICH MAKES THE SEVENTH BATTER, MIKOSHIBA, THE ACTUAL *SECOND* BATTER.

I'M SURE THIS IS SOMETHING KAWATO THOUGHT OF.

NO OUTS, RUNNER ON FIRST...

I TOLD HIM TO MAKE A SACRIFICIAL BUNT TO MAKE SURE THE RUNNER WOULD GET TO SECOND,

GOOD.

BUT HE DIDN'T AGREE WITH ME.

MIKO-SHIBA ...

AND THE RUNNER TAKES OFF!!

ENATSU WINDS UP FOR HIS SECOND PITCH...

OH!
HE RAISED
HIS BAT!

IT'S A FAKE
BUNT WHILE THE
RUNNER'S GOING
FOR SECOND!

HE HIT IT CLEANLY!!

OHHH!!

ホホホ!!!

ナイス!!

AHH! THE SECOND BASEMAN CAUGHT IT!

THE RUNNER CAN'T GET BACK TO FIRST IN TIME!

IT'S A DOUBLE PLAY!

SECOND BASEMAN SHIBATA CAUGHT THE LINE DRIVE!

GUH ...

AHH...

FUCK ME...

NIKOGAKU'S PLAN HAS FAILED!

LOADING THE BASES FOR ANIYA IS OUT OF THE QUESTION NOW!

COULDN'T THEY HAVE MOVED THE RUNNER FROM FIRST TO SECOND AND TRADED IT FOR AN OUT?

AWWW...

WITH TWO OUTS AND A RUNNER ON SECOND.

BUT EVEN IF HIYAMA WAS OUT, THE NEXT BATTER WAS ANIYA

BECAUSE THEN AT THE VERY LEAST, A SAC FLY COULD GET THE RUNNER HOME.

BUT IF A RUNNER WAS ON THIRD, HIYAMA WOULD BE ABLE TO HIT IT EASIER.

IF THE NEXT BATTER, HIYAMA, WAS ABLE TO GET THAT RUNNER HOME WITH A SINGLE, THEN SURE.

YOU CAN SEE THAT THEY'RE ASKING WAY TOO MUCH OF ANIYA.

HAHA HA.

.....

QUIT BEING A PUSSY.

OH, SHUT UP ALREADY. WHAT'S AN INJURED PLAYER GONNA DO?

WHERE ANIYA WILL BE NEEDED.

WE'RE STILL JUST IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GAME...

SO OTHER SITUATIONS WITH BETTER OPPORTUNITIES WILL COME UP,

BUT HE COULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT ANIYA WOULDN'T BE IN SHAPE FOR IMPORTANT SITUATIONS BECAUSE HE USED UP ALL OF HIS ENERGY FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE GAME.

MAYBE KAWATO WAS HOPING ON ANIYA'S WILL AND CHARISMA TO INSPIRE THE TEAM...

YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

AS A REPLACE-MENT PLAYER FOR SPECIFIC SITUA-TIONS.

BUT WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY, THEY PROBABLY SHOULDN'T HAVE STARTED ANIYA AT ALL AND KEPT HIM

IT LOOKS LIKE THAT HIT AND RUN TACTIC WAS MIKOSHIBA'S IDEA.

RELYING ON HIM IS FINE, BUT NOT TOO MUCH.

HIS PLAYERS SAID NO TO HIS STRATEGY.

KAWATO ISN'T A GOOD ENOUGH COACH YET.

NIKOGAKU'S BENCH JUST REALIZED IT.

HE'S PROBABLY FEELING THE HORROR OF HIS MISTAKE RIGHT NOW.

HEY, OLD MAN! WHY DIDN'T WE MOVE THE RUNNER TO SECOND WITH A BUNT!?

NOT NOTICING THE CONDITION OF MY PLAYERS AND ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE FROM THEM.

I'M EMBARRASSED, TO SAY THE LEAST...

THE RUNNER HAD TO GET ON SECOND BASE!!

ANIYA-KUN!

I COULD HAVE GOTTEN HIM HOME!

.....

WITH A HIT AND RUN TACTIC, YOU ABSOLUTELY NEED TO GET THE BALL TO THE GROUND...

!

...I TOLD HIM.

I KNOW THAT MY RESOLVE IS LACK-ING.

AND I ALSO UNDERSTAND HOW STRONG YOUR RESOLVE IS.

I KNOW I SHOULDN'T BE PREACHING TO YOU WHEN I SCREWED UP SUCH A BASIC PLAY.

ゴ"

HUH?

BUT YOUR RESOLVE IS WRONG.

I THINK THAT DEEP DOWN INSIDE YOU, YOU DON'T COMPLETELY BELIEVE IN US!

YOU THINK YOU CAN DO EVERYTHING BY YOURSELF.

I'M NOT TELLING YOU TO NOT PLAY WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH,

BUT IT ISN'T TIME FOR YOU TO GO ALL OUT YET.

YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO WHAT THAT DOCTOR SAID!

SO EVEN IF YOU CAN LIVE WITH THAT, WE CAN'T!

IS HIYAMA-KUN READY YET?

.....

.....

WHAT I'M SAYING IS... WE'RE COUNTING ON YOUR SWINGING AND PITCHING!

ALL FOR THE SAKE OF VICTORY!

IT'S LIKE YOU SAID...

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO AGREE WITH ME BECAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO'S TELLING IT TO YOU, RIGHT?

I'VE DEDICATED MY LIFE TO THIS BASEBALL TOURNAMENT... I *LIVE* FOR THE KOSHIEN...

WE MAY HAVE THE SAME DREAM, BUT I DON'T EVEN COME CLOSE TO HIM IN TERMS OF SKILL...

SHIT... WHAT THE FUCK AM I DOING, TALKING TO HIM LIKE THAT...

BECAUSE I WASN'T DOING MY ROLE OF CAPTAIN?

IS THAT WHY ANIYA TOLD ME ALL OF THAT!?

WHY AM I DOING THIS?

I'M TALKING TO HIM IN SUCH AN AUTHORITATIVE WAY...

WHEN I WAS NEVER REALLY PLAYING MY ROLE AS CAPTAIN...

I'M LETTING YOU THROW ONLY TWENTY-FIVE PITCHES!

I'M AUTHORIZ-ING YOU TO SWING WITH FULL POWER ONCE!

HEYYY!!

YOU *MUST* ABIDE BY THAT!

GOT IT!?

1

ALRIGHT, ALREADY.

STOP MAKING SUCH A SCARY FACE, CAPTAIN!

YOU'RE SURE STARTING TO LOOK LIKE KAWATO.

I GOT IT.

■ジャンプ・コミックス

ROOKIES

23今を生きる！

2003年6月9日　第1刷発行

著　者　森田まさのり
©STUDIO HITMAN　2003
編　集　ホ　ー　ム　社
東京都千代田区一ツ橋2丁目5番10号
〒101-8050
電話　東京　03(5211)2651

発行人　山　路　則　隆

発行所　株式会社　集英社
東京都千代田区一ツ橋2丁目5番10号
〒101-8050
電話　東京　03(3230)6233(編集)
03(3230)6191(販売)
03(3230)6076(制作)
Printed in Japan

印刷所　中央精版印刷株式会社

造本には十分注意しておりますが、乱丁・落丁(本のページ順序の間違いや抜け落ち)の場合はお取り替え致します。購入された書店名を明記して、集英社制作部宛にお送り下さい。送料は集英社負担でお取り替え致します。但し、古書店で購入したものについてはお取り替え出来ません。本書の一部または全部を無断で複写、複製することは、法律で認められた場合を除き、著作権の侵害となります。

ISBN4-08-873433-5　C9979

ROOKIES
ルーキーズ

ROOKIES IS BACK BABY!
COME HELP US FINISH A GREAT MANGA BY APPLYING ON EITHER THE DEADBEAT OR ILLUMINATI FORUMS. ALSO, BE SURE TO CHECK OUT MANY OTHER GREAT SERIES DONE BY EITHER GROUP.

TRANSLATOR - HIRATSUKA
CLEANERS - DH85 & RHY
TRANSLATION CHECKERS - CMERTB & GGPX
TYPESETTERS - BLOBSNDREES & GGPX
QUALITY CHECKER - DH85 & GGPX
SCANNER - GGPX

DEADBEAT-SCANS
WWW.DEADBEAT-SCANS.COM
*DEADBEAT@IRCHIGHWAY.NET

ILLUMINATI-MANGA
WWW.ILLUMINATI-MANGA.COM
*ILLUMINATI-MANGA@IRCHIGHWAY.NET